

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF STATUTORY ESTIMATES MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, LIOSBAN RETAIL CENTRE, TUAM ROAD GALWAY ON MONDAY, 10th NOVEMBER, 1997

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor M. Finnerty

Baill:-

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

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Collieran, Co. Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, J. Cullen, A.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

4555

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Leo & Kathleen Casey & Family, Killimor Road, Portumna, Co. Galway.
Mrs. Sal Mellotte & Family, The Neale, Cong, Co. Mayo.

GOOD WISHES

4556

On the proposal of Councillor Fahy, the Council extended Good Wishes to Canon Joseph Kelly, Ardrahan who retired recently and thanked him for all the good work he had done for his Parishioners.

ESTIMATES 1998

4557

A copy of the Estimates and County Manager's Statement had been circulated to each Member on 24th October, 1997.

Deputy P. Connaughton referred to the need for government funding to be on a multi-annual basis rather than year to year, at present. He also stated that it was unfair that the business community had to meet the Council's increased costs through higher rates. On the question of the proposed water charge of £120 for B & B and Guesthouse establishments, he indicated that he had received a number of representations from people concerned about this proposal.

Cllr. T. Byrne noted that Galway County Council was spending approximately £1.5M a week and so making a significant contribution to the economy of the county. Also, the increase in demand for services is far greater than the 2% increase provided for in the equalisation grant. He expressed concern at the water charge for schools, some of which were quite small, and suggested that the water charge should take account of this.

Cllr. J. Burke referred to the increases in dump charges which he felt might encourage illegal dumping. With regard to the B & B charge, he felt it should be graded to take account of the volume of business being carried on. On planning applications, he said it was important that meetings between applicants and planners occur early during the planning application process so that requests for further information in the later stages can be avoided.

Cllr. P. O Tuathail stated that Bridge maintenance and improvement was costing the Council substantial sums each year and separate provision for bridges should be made available through special grants. On the matter of the proposed B & B water charge, he requested that houses within holiday villages which are let for reward or profit be included in the charging system.

Cllr. P. Finnegan referred to the huge level of Council activity and welcomed the degree of co-operation that now existed between the Council and local communities. He questioned what impact the proposed 25% increase in landfill charges would have and whether it was likely to give rise to illegal dumping. It was important, in the context of the level of Council expenditure, that value for money be achieved.

Deputy P. McCormack stated that there is a need for greater liaison between Galway County Council and Galway Corporation in matters such as the Western Distributor Road and other areas where services are shared between the two authorities. On the matter of the water charge for B & B establishments, he felt it may be necessary to take account of the volume of business being carried on.

Cllr. M. Ryan complimented the Council on the recent improvements to the Kilkerrin/Moylough Water Supply Scheme. He referred to anomalies in the water charges for troughs and asked that that area be examined. He referred also to the need for improvement works on the National Secondary Road at Horseleap Cross.

Cllr. P. McHugh stated that greater action was required in the area of litter prevention and that it was important to secure prosecutions against litter offenders.

Cllr. J. Brennan asked that a flexible approach be adopted towards the water charge for B & B's. He referred also to the need to give due priority to single persons on the Council housing waiting list. With regard to Tourism, he did not feel that enough was being done to promote local tourism. He also supported extending the involvement of local communities particularly in the area of burial grounds provision.

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan, in the context of the proposed increase in landfill charges, said that the public needed to be informed of the impact of waste management and litter control. With regard to the level of income from state funding, he stated that the Council is left with very little power over its own affairs.

Cllr. T. Hussey enquired about the extent of the proposed B & B charge and in particular if it would apply to unregistered premises. Responding, the Finance Officer stated that the charge would apply to all B & B establishments and the process of compiling the details of same was underway.

Cllr. J. McClearn requested that Craughwell be included as a satellite town for the purposes of having an action plan prepared. Referring to derelict sites in towns and villages, he suggested that where agreement could not be reached with the owner for their improvement, they should be acquired by the Council. He hoped that funding would soon be available for Hearnbrook Road and also that the Library in Killimor would be replaced.

Cllr. M. Loughnane referring to the action plans for various satellite towns in the county requested that Craughwell be included. He also requested that consideration be given to the provision of a site for a Gaelscoil in the Oranmore area.

Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta supported the call to have a specific allocation for bridges from the Road Grants. She was disappointed with the amount being provided for coastal erosion and maintenance of piers and harbours and said, with regard to the Fire Service, that it was unsatisfactory that there was no Fire Station in the area between Clifden and Galway city. *Duirt si freisin gur chuir si failte roimh usaid an ghaeilge agus mhol si go gcuirfi coip de na meastachain i gcló in ngeailge an bhliain seo chugainn.*

Cllr. M. Fahy suggested that the remaining demountable dwellings should be replaced with rural houses. He requested that efforts be made to secure approval for the Gort Regional Water Supply Scheme and the sewerage schemes for Craughwell and Kinvara.

The Chairman then declared the Estimates of Expenses for the financial year ending
Dúirt Comhairleoir S. O Neachtain gur aontaigh sé le na baill eile gur cheart Gaelscoil a thabhairt chun cinn. Referring to Council funding generally, he said that there were greater restrictions each year because of the level of central control.

Cllr. M. O'Neill supported the request earlier by members that a specific allocation for bridge improvements be made available. With regard to Libraries, he felt that the Council should be complimented on the School's Library Service.

Cllr. J. Callanan referred to the importance of providing rural houses and of the Improvement Works in Lieu and Disabled Persons Grant Schemes in enabling people to remain in the rural areas of the County. He requested that the system of water charges for troughs be examined.

Cllr. J. Conneely requested that arrangements be made for provision of public toilets in Clifden and also that improvement works for Clifden Courthouse be carried out in 1998, and that roadworks in the N.59 at Derrylea Lake be completed.

Cllr. E. Varley stated that the N.84 Corrandulla to Headford and also the Headford to Shrule roads were in urgent need of improvement. With regard to litter, she stated that greater enforcement was needed and owners of derelict sites and buildings should be penalised.

Cllr. M. Regan referred to the need to spread the burden of cost increases more widely as it was always the business community who were being asked to pay for cost increases through higher rates.

The County Manager responded to various questions that were raised by Councillors in the course of the discussion on the Estimates. In particular, on the question of National Secondary Roads raised by several members, he stated that a priority programme was being prepared, at present, for submission to the NRA. With regard to Water Charges, he informed the meeting that consumers would be allowed to opt for a charge based on usage if they felt it would benefit them and this should deal with the difficulties of agricultural users who are charged per trough.

The Chairman thanked the Manager and his staff for the manner in which the estimates were presented and the members for their contribution to the discussion.

ADOPTION OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENSES 1998 4558

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. T. Hussey and resolved: -

"That Galway County Council hereby adopt the Estimate of Expenses for the financial year ending 31st December, 1998 as presented and as set out in Tables A, B and D of the said Estimate of Expenses."

The Chairman then declared the Estimate of Expenses for the financial year ending 31st December 1998 adopted as presented.

Agreed. Signed:

12th Dec 1998
DATE

**DETERMINATION OF THE RATE IN THE POUND 4559
TO BE LEVIED FOR THE SEVERAL PURPOSES
SPECIFIED IN THE ESTIMATE FOR THE FINANCIAL
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1998.**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. J. Brennan and resolved: -

"That Galway County Council hereby determine in accordance with the Estimate of Expenses for the financial year ending 31st December 1998 as presented and adopted, the rates as set out in Table B and Column (7) Table D, to be the rates in the Pound to be levied for the several purposes as set out in Table B and Table D for the financial year ending 31st December 1998.

The Chairman declared Councillor Ryan's proposal carried and declared that the rate in the Pound for the various purposes specified in the estimate for the financial year ending 31st December, 1998 had been determined by the Council. The prescribed certificate was then signed.

**DEMAND ON BALLINASLOE URBAN DISTRICT 4560
COUNCIL**

It was proposed by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. M. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Sullivan and resolved: -

"That the statutory demand on the Ballinasloe Urban District Council for the year ending 31st December 1998 be signed and sealed."

The demand was then signed and sealed.

**ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OUT- 4561
TURN FOR 1997**

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

On the proposal of Councillor Hussey, seconded by Councillor Gavin, the Council agreed to make a grant of £250 to William Henry, 25 Monivea Park, Ballybane, Galway, a member of the Archaeological & Historical Society and the Old Galway Society who is writing a book about a Galway man, Robert O'Hara Burke who became one of the best known figures in Australian History.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINIU ANSIN

limited, Approved + Signed:

Michael Finerty
Chairman

12th December 1997
DATE

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES MEETING
OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN
COMMITTEE AT COUNCIL OFFICES, LIOSBAN
RETAIL PARK, TUAM ROAD, GALWAY ON FRIDAY,
31ST OCTOBER, 1997**

Cathaoirleach:-

Councillor M. Finnerty

Bail:-

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. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllr. P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, P. Ridge & L. Gavin, S.E.E.'s, & J. Cullen, A.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

4552

The Chairman and all the Members joined in a Vote of Sympathy to Councillor Mannion on the recent death of his Mother. The County Manager on his own behalf and on behalf of the Staff, joined in the expression of sympathy.

Councillor Mannion thanked the Members and Officials and all those who attended the funeral. The Meeting then adjourned for five minutes as a matter of respect.

ESTIMATES 1998

4553

Presenting his report to the meeting, the County Manager stated that Galway County Council is a significant contributor to the economy of County Galway and in 1998 will spend over £67.5M between revenue and capital expenditure. In framing the Estimates of Expenses, the increase in the rate in the pound was contained to 2%

above the rate of inflation bringing the rate to £34.46. The Manager stated that revised funding arrangements had been introduced in 1997 whereby the Rate Support Grant and income from domestic water charges were replaced by the retention of 80% of private motor car tax receipts and a grant from the Equalisation Fund. Galway County Council had been notified that income from this source in 1998 would be 2% above the 1997 level. On the matter of charges for services, the Manager stated that there would be no increase in the metered water charge and that the categories of fixed water charges had been rationalised to eliminate anomalies. A new charge of £120, over and above any domestic element, was being proposed for bed and breakfast establishments and a sewerage charge in respect of industrial effluent loading on sewers was being introduced.

Dealing with each of the programme groups in turn, the Manager referred to the main estimates provisions. He highlighted the need for an accelerated programme for traveller accommodation and, in Programme 2, referred to the progress that had been achieved through the road restoration programme and community involvement in roadworks. Provision was being made in Capital Account in 1998 for expenditure of £230,000 on improvements to the water supply and sewerage networks. On Development Incentives and Control, the Manager made reference to the continued growth in the number of planning applications being processed which reflected the economic development throughout the county. Once again, it was proposed to increase the provision for economic activity grants by £3,000 in 1998. The Manager stated that waste management represented one of the biggest challenges facing Galway County Council and it was hoped to bring an interim report on waste management strategy before the Council early in the new year. It was important too, to move towards the "polluter pays" principle and as a step in this direction, landfill gate fees would have to increase by 25% in 1998. Reference was made to the need to provide matching funding to meet the Council's portion of the cost of coastal protection and improvement works to piers and harbours. The provision for the purchase of library books was being increased to £120,000 and the valuable contribution of the Urban and Village renewal programme was highlighted. The Manager stated that £98,500 was being provided to meet the cost of Local Elections scheduled for June 1998. With regard to the new Headquarters, the members were informed that construction work was underway and that proposals for the financing of the project were being examined. Finally, the Manager thanked the Cathaoirleach and members of the Council for their co-operation throughout the year and recommended the adoption of the Estimates, as presented.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Manager for his presentation and invited the members to make their observations and raise questions on the estimates provisions.

Cllr. T. Hussey stated that the County Council was not provided with sufficient resources to run its various services and that more and more schemes were being financed by the national exchequer. Cllr. T. Byrne stated that the Council's hands were tied and it was left with very little scope for imaginative ideas. Despite this, a very significant programme of works were being undertaken. It was unfortunate, he said, that ratepayers were still being asked to fund the Council's expenditure through increased rates. He enquired if it would be possible to give some relief to second level schools who were finding it difficult to cope with their water charges.

Cllr. T. Walsh welcomed the estimates presentation and raised a number of questions. He enquired precisely what water improvements were proposed in Glenamaddy and was the grant for burial grounds fixed at a certain sum. The County Engineer replied indicating that the water supply improvements proposed were for increased storage capacity which should go some way to alleviating the water difficulties in Glenamaddy. Cllr. M. Fahy noted that the provision for councillors conferences had been increased to £2,200. Cllr. J. Burke stated that it was difficult for small businesses to carry the rate increase however small it might be. He enquired if value for money was being achieved for the amount being spent on housing maintenance. Also, he felt it was important to rationalise dump charges to eliminate anomalies and that greater activity is needed in the area of litter prevention.

Cllr. P. McHugh asked if the amount being provided for councillors notice of motion money in 1998 was being increased to £7,500. Cllr. K. Quinn stated that more funds should be made available for essential repairs and welcomed the additional provision for the purchase of library books. Cllr. J. McDonagh referred to the need for an increase in the notice of motion monies and hoped that adequate funding would be available in 1998 for burial grounds. Cllr. S. Gavin referred to the need to ensure that adequate sewerage facilities are available to facilitate the proper development of towns and villages in the County. The Chairman asked that the question of public lighting in the Cleaghmore and Derrymullen areas in Ballinasloe be examined.

The County Manager replied to the various questions raised by the members and stated that he would revert to them at the statutory Estimates Meeting on the matters of housing maintenance, burial ground expenditure and scale of charges for landfill sites.

CONGRATULATIONS

4554

Councillor Varley proposed a Vote of Congratulations to Mrs. Mary McHugh, Skehbeg, Headford, Co. Galway on reaching her 104th Birthday. She also proposed that the Government be asked to increase to £1,000 the payment made to citizens on reaching their 100th Birthday. This was seconded by Councillor McClearn and agreed.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed:

Michael Finerty
Chairman

12th December 1997
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNCIL OFFICES, LIOSBAN RETAIL PARK, TUAM ROAD, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 20th OCTOBER, 1997

CATHAOIRLEACH: *An Comhairleoir M. Finnerty*

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, E. Power & D. Barrett, A.O.'s, M. Flynn, Asst. Planner, P. Ridge, S.E.E., E. Lusby, Finance Officer, T. Connell, S.S.O. & E. Hourigan, A/Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an crinniú leis an paidir.

The Members formally welcomed Mr. John Tierney, Assistant County Manager to Galway County Council and looked forward to working with him in the future.

The Members also welcomed Mr. Liam Gavin, S.E.E., Environment.

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

4518

A Vote of Congratulations was passed to Deputy Noel Treacy on his recent appointment as Minister for Science and Technology.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

4519

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mrs. Mary Guider, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Michael & Antoinette Dolan, Monivea, Co. Galway.

Mrs. Sally Smith & Family, Corrandulla, Co. Galway.

The Hughes Family, Caherlistrane, Co. Galway.

MINUTES

4520

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 12th September, 1997 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

On the proposal of Councillor J. Burke, seconded by Councillor Fahy, the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 19th September, 1997 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 29th September, 1997, were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Mannion.

The Report of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 30th September, 1997 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

The Report of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 25th August, 1997 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor O'Neill, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Tuathail.

The Report of the Galway Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 25th August, 1997 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Varley.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 2nd September, 1997 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

The Report of the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 24th September, 1997 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Fahy.

The Report of the National Monuments Advisory Committee Meeting held on 9th September, 1997 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of the Chairman, Councillor Finnerty, seconded by Councillor Varley.

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The Report of the Protocol Committee Meeting held on 29th September, 1997 was considered. It was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute No. 4484 - Minutes of Monthly Meeting

Councillor Mannion queried whether a date was arranged for the holding of next Protocol Committee Meeting and proposed that it be held on Friday, 31st October, 1997. Councillor Hussey seconded this proposal, and the Members agreed to same.

Speed Limit - Glenlo Abbey - Galway Area Committee Meeting

Councillor Gavin requested an up-to-date report on Galway County Council's application for a 40 mph speed limit at Glenlo Abbey.

The County Engineer said that an updated report would be issued at the next Area Committee Meeting.

Lands at Rinville Park - Loughrea Area Committee Meeting

Councillor Loughnane requested that an up-to-date report on the lands at Rinville Park be prepared for the next meeting of the Loughrea Area Committee.

Deputation from the National Monuments Advisory Committee

On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Councillor Varley, the Members agreed to meet a deputation of the National Monuments Committee at a Meeting of the Council.

**EXTENSION OF TIME FOR REVIEW OF GORT TOWN 4521
DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Mr. T. Kavanagh, County Secretary informed the Members that the Development Plan for the Scheduled Town of Gort is due for review. In order to facilitate the review of the Plan, it will be necessary to obtain the Minister's approval for an extension of time for the review period. To allow time for publication, submissions etc., an 18 month extension period is recommended.

On the proposal of Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Fahy, the Members agreed that an application be made to the Minister for an eighteen month extension from 13th November, 1997 to facilitate the review of the Gort Town Development Plan.

	PROJECT	AMOUNT
1.	9724 Portunna Castle Gardens	€4,700
2.	9747 Glinck Heritage Park & Enterprise Centre	24,700

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT 4522
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994**

The Members were circulated with Report dated 13th October, 1997 regarding the following proposed developments:-

- (a) Construction of 4 houses with services at Headford, Co. Galway.
- (b) Construction of 6 houses with services at Crowe Street, Gort, Co. Galway.

On the proposal of Councillor Varley, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, the Council agreed and noted the Report.

An Comhairleoir O'Tuathail said that the Council Housing Scheme in Carraroe is a bad example of housing development work as it has not provided open space/playgrounds for children. He requested that consideration should be given when planning future schemes for the provision of play areas, and land be acquired in other areas as the schools in the Carraroe area are unable to cater for any further increase in population.

AMENITY & ECONOMIC ACTIVITY GRANTS 1997 4523

A Report dated 14th October, 1997 was circulated to the Members. The County Secretary informed the Members that in accordance with 1997 Estimates £38,000 was allocated to the provision of Amenity Grants and £32,000 for Economic Activity Grants for the County.

The number of applications received for Amenity Grants was 96 and Economic Activity Grants 51, which is an increase on last years. The applications received were examined in a very thorough, fair and equitable manner. Ms. Mary Flynn, Executive Planner informed the Members that each application was examined on an individual basis. The following items were taken into consideration:-

- The quality of the proposal and backup material supplied with the application.
- The proposed budgets and local contribution.
- Interest shown by Community previously and their interest in Urban/Village Renewal, etc.

Ms. Flynn visited or spoke to Community Groups and afforded advice, and every engineering area is represented. The list of grants recommended is given hereunder:-

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY GRANTS 1997

NUMBER	PROJECT	AMOUNT
1. 97/34	Portumna Castle Gardens	£4,700
2. 97/47	Glinsk Heritage Park & Enterprise Centre	£4,700

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3.	97/01	Abbey Community Centre	£3,950
4.	97/26	Mountbellew Heritage Centre /Museum	£3,700
5.	97/43	Moycullen Community Centre	£3,200
6.	97/48	North West Connemara (FORUM)	£3,200
7.	97/31	Oughterard Tourist Office	£2,450
8.	97/05	Beagh I.R.D. Fishing/ Archaeological/Tourist Plan	£1,700
9.	97/09	Clarinbridge Parish Hall	£1,700
10.	97/13	Inishere Recycling Project	£1,700
11.	97/29	Old Tuam Society	£1,000
Total			£32,000

AMENITY GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS 1997

NUMBER	PROJECT	AMOUNT
1.	97/34 Portumna Castle Gardens	1,650
2.	97/24 Inishere Walks	1,500
3.	97/61 Swimming area, Portumna	1,500
4.	97/12B Clarinbridge Hall	1,500
5.	97/01 Abbey Village	1,375
6.	97/35 Glenamaddy Park	1,375
7.	97/42 Kilcolgan Village	1,375
8.	97/44 Killimor G.A.A. (Disabled)	1,375
9.	97/55 Monivea Tidy Towns	1,375
10.	97/59 Oranmore Park	1,375
11.	97/05 Ballyconneely Park	1,000
12.	97/13 Clifden, trees and street signs	1,000
13.	97/48 Lackagh Village	1,000
14.	97/50 Lawrencetown Tidy Towns	1,000
15.	97/69 Woodford Sportsfield	1,000
16A.	97/85 Glinsk Village	900
16B.	97/56 Mountbellew & District	1,000
17.	97/09 Caltra Village	750
18.	97/14 Clonberne Green	750
19.	97/29 Dunmore Community GAA Pitch	750
20.	97/30 Dunmore Plaques	750
21.	97/40 Headford Pitch	750
22.	97/45 Killimor Walk & Nature Trail	750
23.	97/53 Loughrea Tidy Towns	750
24.	97/54 Milltown Village	750
25.	97/60 Oughterard Tidy Towns	750
26.	97/71 Caherlistrane - Lough Hackett	650
27.	97/84 Ballinakill Village	650
28.	97/75B Dunmore Tidy Towns	750
29.	97/02 Abbeyknockmoy Landscaping	500

In response to Deputy Connaughton, Mr. Ridge stated that discussions were taking place with a number of Group Schemes which could be served by the new Regional Supply Scheme in the immediate vicinity of the Luimnagh to Tuam line. It is the policy of the Council that all Group Schemes should be connected to a public supply but not necessarily taken in charge.

On phasing of schemes, Mr. Ridge stated that we must phase our schemes in a manner which will enable them to attract funding. Our preference for the next phase of the Regional Scheme would be extensions to serve Mid-Galway, Monivea. Further extensions will include Dunmore/Barnaderg.

Deputy Connaughton noted that the current scheme is capable of processing 7 to 8 million gallons of water per day. Mr. Nelson advised the Members that the Council was not in a position to confirm when the next phase of the scheme would commence.

Spiddal to Rossaveal Trunk Main

Deputy McCormack complimented the Council on the progress made in relation to this scheme. He said that he will request the Minister to sign the documents giving approval as soon as possible, as development is being delayed in this area. He also stated that this scheme will relieve the Carraroe Water Supply Scheme.

Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply Scheme

Mr. D. Nelson informed the Members that the Contract Documents for Phase I of the Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply Scheme are being prepared at present.

The Chairman stated that this work should be proceeded with as soon as possible. He queried whether the headworks at Ballinasloe U.D.C. (the source) is sufficient to cater for the needs of this scheme.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Ballinasloe UDC plant would not be adequate to cater for the Regional Scheme. The Council's Consultants had been asked to prepare a report on the necessary upgrading and improvement works required. It was imperative that the UDC supply was adequate for the current and future needs of the town.

Mr. Ridge confirmed that technical reports were being prepared for the first phase of the Regional Scheme which provided for improvements to the existing scheme in Laurencetown as well as improvements to the headworks in Ballinasloe. The Minister for the Environment had given a commitment to advance Stage I of this scheme.

Connemara Environmental Project

An Comhairleoir O'Tuathail stated that the overall picture confirms that a large number of sources are polluted by E-Coli. He said that £40 million has been spent east of the Corrib and queried the current situation with the EU Cohesion Fund money for projects under the Connemara Environmental Project.

In response to An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, Mr. Ridge stated that the lake source at Buluisce Spiddal is capable of supplying the extension to Rossaveal. The existing extraction rate can be doubled to 600,000 gallons per day well within the design limits of the scheme. The present link up between the Rossaveal and Lettermore/Carraroe schemes would be maintained. In response to An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta and Councillor O'Neill, Mr. Ridge confirmed that the Council's long term policy for the supply of water to the Connemara area was set out in the proposed Connemara Environment Project which the Council had submitted to the Department of the Environment. The Department of the Environment had submitted elements of this scheme to the E.U. for funding.

Water conservation measures would have to be introduced in the short term to alleviate the supply situation in many parts of Connemara said Mr. Ridge, but especially where supplies were limited.

Oranmore Sewerage Scheme

Deputy McCormack stated that the objections to the Mutton Island Project (Court Proceedings) are delaying the commencement of the Oranmore scheme, as this scheme is to be connected to the Galway City Main Drainage Scheme. Deputy McCormack proposed that the Council support the Corporation for the Galway City Main Drainage Scheme as proposed and ask the lone objector to withdraw the High Court Proceedings so that this scheme can progress with or without Cohesion Funding. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain seconded this motion and said that this problem is not just a city problem but affects the County as a whole. He said that the Council must voice, as strong as possible, that this individual cannot stop the progress of the City and its hinterland. He requested that a letter be sent to the Minister stating that without this scheme, people will no longer be able to use the beaches in County Galway.

Councillor Fimmerty reminded the Members that this can be relayed to the Minister when he visits in November. The Chairman informed the Members that the City Mayor, Alderman Michael Leahy made contact with the individual concerned.

Group Water Schemes

Mr. Nelson informed the members that the recently established Group Schemes Section was now fully operational.

Earlier in the year the Department had forwarded a list of 37 "approved schemes in planning" for processing by the Council. 14 schemes are now completed. 21 of the schemes consist of 2 houses and 3 of the schemes consist of more than 70 houses.

145 Grants had been processed to date under the grants scheme for the provision/improvement of individual water supplies. 125 applications had been received from existing Group Schemes for subsidy payments.

Group Schemes will be required to certify water quality, in order to qualify for subsequent payments of the subsidy. Where quality is below permitted levels the

Group Schemes will have to submit action plans setting out a programme of works to improve water quality.

In response to queries from Members, Mr. Nelson stated that he expected all grant and subsidy payments would evolve into an annual roll over situation - some payments cannot be made at present because all formalities are not yet completed - while other schemes have already been paid.

Discussions were on-going with around 10 Group Schemes in regard to these schemes being taken over by the Council. The Council is anxious to take over schemes, particularly where water quality is unacceptable. Schemes linked to public mains are being looked at initially.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Members thanked Mr. Nelson, Mr. Ridge and Staff for their forthright answers and for their excellent work throughout the county.

Mr. O'Donoghue, County Manager said that a further copy of the documentation relating to the taking over of Group Schemes will be circulated to the Members. He also acknowledged the tributes paid to Staff of the Sanitary Services Section.

VISIT TO CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 4525

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey and agreed that the following Members visit Carmarthenshire County Council for the purpose of exchanging views and experiences on the provision of minority languages.

Senator J. McDonagh

Cllr. J. Mannion

Cllr. P. O'Tuathail

Cllr. J. Callanan

Cllr. M. Fahy

A list of substitutes has also been nominated by the various groups. It is hoped that visit will take place later this year.

FILLING OF VACANCY ON FINANCE COMMITTEE 4526

Following the resignation of Councillor W. Burke from the Finance Committee, the Members agreed to Councillor J. Burke's nomination to the Committee on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

Councillor Mannion thanked Councillor W. Burke for his contribution and work on the Finance Committee.

CONFERENCES

4527

Having noted the recommendations of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, and agreed that the attendance of the following Members be approved at the conferences setout below:-

Spirit of Galway - Boston - 12/19 June, 1997

Senator J. McDonagh

NASC - EU LIAISON - BRUSSELS - 14/18 June, 1997

Cllr. T. Hussey Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta Cllr. S. O'Neachtain

Spirit of Ireland - Milwaukee - 13/21 August, 1997

Cllr. S. O'Neachtain Cllr. M. Finnerty

Hazardous Waste - Imperial Hotel, Cork - 6/7 November, 1997

Deputy P. Connaughton

Peatlands 2000 Conference - Royal Dublin Hotel, Dublin - 14 November 1997

Deputy P. Connaughton Cllr. J. Mannion
Cllr. M. Ryan Cllr. J. McClearn

Conference on Nuclear Hazards - County Hall, Dun Laoghaire - 4/5 December, 1997

Cllr. J. McClearn Deputy P. McCormack

La Touche Legacy Seminar - Greystones, Co. Wicklow - 3/5 October, 1997

Cllr. P. Finnegan

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

4528

The County Manager informed the Members that Mr. Noel Dempsey, T.D., Minister for the Environment and Local Government will be visiting Galway County Council on 24th November, 1997 at 2.00 p.m. He also said that the official opening of the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme has been deferred to another date.

Gaeltacht Roads

The County Manager informed the Members that the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands recently announced the allocation of £207,000 for improvement to Gaeltacht roads of which £87,000 will be spent on non-public roads.

He said that £120,000 would be spent on public roads. The money must be matched by the Council and Mr. O'Donoghue stated that there is £60,000 in the current road works fund for same.

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta welcomed this announcement. She stated that money was allocated to all roads in the various gaeltacht areas. However, Galway's allocation is greater because the Galway Gaeltacht is larger. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain welcomed and agreed with An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta's comments.

Councillor McClearn said that while he welcomed the Minister's announcement, he wished to remind the Minister that there are many roads in East Galway which also needed repair.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4529

Telephone System

The Members complimented the County Manager and County Secretary for the new list of telephone numbers which were circulated.

Gort Fire Station

The Chairman informed the Members that the Contract for the construction of a new Fire Station in Gort was signed on Wednesday, 15th October, 1997. Councillor Cunningham apologised for being unable to attend the signing.

Estimates

The Chairman reminded the Members that the Estimates In-Committee Meeting will be held on 31st October, 1997 and the formal Estimates Meeting on Monday, 10th November, 1997. Both Meetings will be held in the Council Offices, Liosban Retail Centre, Tuam Road, Galway.

The Chairman informed the Members that the Australian Ambassador will be visiting the Galway Area on Tuesday, 28th October, 1997.

Planning Notices

Councillor J. Burke read the reply he received to his Notice of Motion regarding his request that the Council recommend that the publication of Planning Notices be placed in local newspapers to ensure that all locals are aware of all developments within an area.

Deputy McCormack requested that the size of the Site Notice be increased to make same visible from the road.

The Manager replied stating that the publication of Planning Notices is prescribed by regulation and the Council cannot go outside these regulations. However,

recommendations can be made to the Department of the Environment regarding same.

On the proposal of Councillor J. Burke, seconded by Deputy McCormack, the Members agreed that a letter setting out the above recommendations in relation to the Planning Regulations be sent to the Minister for the Environment.

Sanitary Services - Treatment of Effluent

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that the problem of the disposal of private septic tank effluent needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Carrowbrowne dump no longer accepts sludge from private septic tanks. He requested that alternative disposal facilities be put in place as otherwise private contractors will cease operations.

The County Engineer replied stating that this problem is of relatively recent origin. Disposal operations are no longer available at Carrowbrowne dump which also places the Council in a quandary, not only private contractors. Private Contractors thought the Council would accept this sludge in Tuam, but this would incur severe costs to the Council. The County Engineer said that meetings have been arranged with representatives of the Contractors with a view to solving a common problem. He advised that there are technologies available through various processes, however, this requires capital investment. The residue would then be suitable for agricultural use which is an avenue the Council may go.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain said that he was against the disposal of sludge as an agricultural additive, as much of the geology of the county is not suitable and same will end up flowing into the water sources. He stated that this is a serious problem and a short-term solution is required.

Mr. Liam Gavin, S.E.E. Environment stated the Council are aware of the problem and this is one of the items to be addressed in the Joint Waste Strategy Study for the City and County.

Fire Service - South Connemara

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta requested the Council to consider the placing of a fire service in the South Connemara Area. A serious incident occurred recently, when a bus, full of school children, went on fire on the main coast road at Inverin. The Fire Brigade was called but by the time the Fire Brigade arrived from Galway, the fire/danger was under control. It highlights the need for a fire service in the Connemara area.

Councillor Quinn said that the Glenamaddy Community are willing to hand over a fire brigade to the Council free of charge for the Glenamaddy area.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 10 - ROAD - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 4530

The following written reply was given to An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain:- 4536

"Verge trimming has been carried out at this location and signage will be improved. Road edges will also be repaired."

N.O.M. NO. 11 - IMPROVEMENT WORKS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4531

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

"Improvement works will be carried out at the above location within the next few weeks."

N.O.M. NO. 12 - PLANNING NOTICE - CLLR. J. BURKE 4532

The following written reply was given to Councillor Burke:-

"The position regarding the publication of planning notices is covered in the Planning Regulations. The Regulations do not allow Planning Authorities to confine notices to local newspapers. The fact that developers are now obliged to put a notice on the site as well as a notice in the newspaper has improved the situation."

N.O.M. NO. 13 - LANDSCAPING SCHEME - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4533

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The carrying out of a landscaping scheme is presently being considered by our Design Section."

N.O.M. NO. 14 - ROAD MARKINGS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4534

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The provision of road markings at the above location is being actively considered by our Design Team at present."

N.O.M. NO. 15 - CORPORATION LAND - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4535

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"This request from Oranmore Development Association was discussed at the Loughrea Area Meeting on the 24th September, 1997 when it was explained that Galway Corporation is not in a position to facilitate this proposal."

N.O.M. NO. 16 - ROAD MAINTENANCE - CLLR. M. FAHY 4536

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"Road maintenance and cleaning will be carried out as resources permit.

We are not convinced that the need for ramps would justify the inconvenience to the general public. The matter will however be kept under review. The hazard could be eliminated if motorists were to abide by the rules of the road."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - VERGE TRIMMING - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4537

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"Verge trimming has been carried out at this location and signage will be improved. Road edges will also be repaired."

N.O.M. NO. 18 - ROAD - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4538

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"Rectification of this problem would require land acquisition which would need to be done in the context of future road realignment requirements at this location and such requirements will be examined with other competing projects on the N59 for prioritisation of future works."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - ROAD JUNCTION - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4539

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"There are no plans to carry out improvement works at the above junction as no provision has been made in the 1997 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - IMPROVEMENT WORKS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4540

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"There are no plans to carry out improvement works at the above junction as no provision has been made in the 1997 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - IMPROVEMENT WORKS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4541

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"There are no plans to carry out improvement works at the above junction as no provision has been made in the 1997 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - ROAD SURFACING/GRASS TRIMMING CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4542

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"There are no plans to resurface this road as it is not included in the 1997 Road Works Programme. The road is considered to be in reasonable condition.

Verge trimming will be carried out if resources permit."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - SIGN - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4543

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Appropriate signs are in place at this location. The provision of additional signage is not recommended."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - DANGEROUS BRIDGE - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4544

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This location will be considered along with others when preparing the 1998 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - DRAINS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4545

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This location will be considered along with others when preparing the 1998 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - BOTHAR - AN COMH C. NI FHATHARTA 4546

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

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

N.O.M. NO. 27 - BOSCAI BRUSCAR - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 4547

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

"Nil aon ga faoi lathair boscai bruscar breise a chur ar fail I sraidbhaile an Cheathru Rua. Deantar athbhreithniú ar an gcas seo roimh Scasuir Tuarasoireachta 1998."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - SOILSE SCOLE - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 4548

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

"Beidh muid ag scrúdú an cás seo in éinacht le áiteacha eile nuair a bheidh muid ag cur clár na mbóithre 1998 le chéile."

N.O.M. NO. 29 - FLOODING - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4549

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

"Remedial works were recently carried out at the above location"

N.O.M. NO. 30 - ROAD MAINTENANCE - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4550

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

"Routine maintenance will be carried out at this location within the next few weeks."

N.O.M. NO. 31 - COUNCIL HOUSE - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 4551

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

"The tenant has complained regarding "water coming up through the bedroom floor". The house has been inspected and dampness has been noted in the bedroom in question. The likely source of the dampness is thought to be a leaking pipe in the adjoining bathroom and the Council's plumber will call in the near future with a view to rectifying any such leak."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed

Michael Smyth
Chairman

20th November 1997
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT MERLIN PARK, GALWAY
ON MONDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER, 1997**

CATHAOIRLEACH:

An Comhairleoir M. Finnerty

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

*Cllrs. J. Brennan, W. Burke, J. Burke,
T. Byrne, J. Callanan, J. Conneely, 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, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn,
M. Regan, M. Ryan, E. Varley & T. Walsh.*

Oifigigh:

*Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D.
Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh,
A/Asst. Co. Manager, J. Colleran, Co.
Engineer, E. Power, A/Co. Secretary, E.
Lusby, Finance Officer, D. Barrett, A.O.
& E. Hourigan, A/Staff Officer.*

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

4476

A Vote of Congratulations was passed to the Glinsk Community on being successful at FAS Awards held recently in Kilkenny.

MINUTES

4477

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 8th August, 1997 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Mullins.

On the proposal of Councillor Brennan, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 25th August, 1997 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

The Report of the Connemara Area Committee held on 14th July, 1997 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor C. Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Councillor Mannion.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT 4478
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994**

The Members were circulated with Report dated 22nd September, 1997 regarding the following proposed developments:-

- (a) Extension to house at No. 2 Ballygarraun South, Athenry, Co. Galway together with renovations to existing house and augmentation of percolation area.
- (b) Construction of 8 houses with services at St. Laurences Fields, (St. Brendan's Court), Loughrea, comprising 4 x 3 bedroomed houses and 4 x 2 bedroomed houses.
- (c) Single rural houses with appropriate treatment facilities at the following locations:-

Killagh Beg, Kilconnell, Co. Galway	Kilcreevanty, Tuam, Co. Galway
Mahanagh, Clonberne, Co. Galway	Corraneena, Kilconnell, Co. Galway
Cappataggle, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway	Kilcloony, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
Gloves Middle, Athenry, Co. Galway	Course, Castleblakeney, Co. Galway
Liss, Kylebrack, Loughrea, Co. Galway	Oultart, Portumna, Co. Galway
Sonnagh Old, Kilchreest, Co. Galway	Maumeen, Lettermore, Co. Galway
Eastwell, Cappataggle, Ballinasloe	Ballynasheeoge, Turloughmore
Moyrus, Carna, Co. Galway (2 houses)	Kilkieran, Carna, Co. Galway
Rusheenamanagh, Carna	Kilbricken, Ailwee, Rosmuck

- (d) Provision of septic tank and percolation area for demountable dwelling at Shanafaraghaun More, Co. Galway.

On the proposal of Councillor Mullins, seconded by Councillor Ni Fhatharta, the Council agreed and noted the Report.

SALE OF LAND AT ST. LAURENCESFIELDS, LOUGHREA TO RESPOND - VOLUNTARY HOUSING ASSOC. 4479

In accordance with the Notice under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946, dated 10th September, 1997, which was circulated to each Member, the Council agreed the sale of 2.467 acres at St. Laurencesfields, Loughrea to Respond Voluntary

Housing Association on the proposal of Councillor Mullins, seconded by Councillor Quinn.

**TO NOTE AUDITORS REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF 4480
THE WEST REGIONAL AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1996**

The Auditors Report on the Accounts of the West Regional Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1996 was noted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Quinn.

**TO CONSIDER A RESOLUTION FOR THE NOMINATION 4481
BY GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL OF DANA - ROSEMARY
SCALLON FOR THE OFFICE OF UACHTARÁN NA hEIREANN**

Councillor Brennan formally proposed that Galway County Council nominate Dana - Rosemary Scallon for the Office of Uachtarán na hEireann, in accordance with the Presidential Election Act, 1993. Councillor Brennan's Notice of Motion No. 13 refers to same. He stated that it had come to his attention that two of the nominations of Dana - Rosemary Scallon, may be invalid and therefore he requested that her nomination by Galway County Council be reconsidered. Councillor Gavin seconded this proposal.

Deputy McCormack queried the validity of the wording of the Motion before the Meeting. According to the interpretation of Section 16 of the Presidential Elections Act 1993, he received, the name of the candidate must be included in the motion and he did not wish the Council to do a disservice to any one candidate.

The Acting County Secretary stated that he had spoken to the Presidential Returning Officer, Mr. Peter Greene. Mr. Greene confirmed that in respect of the candidate - Dana - Rosemary Scallon, he had received three valid nominations. In reply to Deputy McCormack's query, the Acting County Secretary said that the proposed candidate's name appears in the agenda then as it relates to notice of Motion No. 13 which did include the name Dana - Rosemary Scallon. He also stated that based on legal advice, the wording of the previous notice was correct, with the objective being to notify the Council of the intention to consider a resolution under section 16 of the Presidential Election Act 1993.

Councillor Hussey said that at the Special Meeting held on 19th September, 1997, Councillor Brennan assured the Council that Dana - Rosemary Scallon had secured the necessary four nominations and did not require a nomination from Galway County Council. Councillor Hussey proposed that the Council adjourn for a short time in order to discuss this matter. Councillor Mannion seconded this proposal and it was agreed by the members.

The Chairman agreed to a five minute adjournment as requested by the Members.

Upon resumption, the Chairman stated that the Council must consider Councillor Brennan's motion to formally nominate Dana - Rosemary Scallon for the Office of Uachtarán na hEireann, and accordingly a vote be taken.

Councillor Hussey stated that in view of the information given at the last Meeting and the stand taken against Mr. Derek Nally's nomination, that the Fianna Fáil Councillors would be abstaining from any vote taken at the Meeting.

The Acting County Secretary confirmed that Dana - Rosemary Scallon had indicated her consent to be nominated by Galway County Council. In order for the Nomination to be valid, the Council had to be satisfied that Dana - Rosemary Scallon is an eligible candidate. Ms. Scallon had confirmed her Irish Citizenship, and indicated that she was upwards of 35 years of age.

The Chairman called a vote on Councillor Brennan's motion, seconded by Councillor Gavin that:-

"Having complied with the terms of Section 16 of the Presidential Election Act 1993 and being satisfied that the nominee is eligible for election to the office of President and having received the nominee's consent to the nomination, Galway County Council hereby resolve to nominate:-

<u>Surname of Candidate</u>	<u>Other Names</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Occupation</u>
Scallon	Dana- Rosemary	23 Shrewsbury Pk, Merrion Road, Dublin 4.	Wife, Mother & Entertainer

to be a candidate at the Presidential Election to be held on the 30th of October, 1997, in accordance with Section 16 of the said Act and that the Nomination Paper be completed and signed and sealed on behalf of Galway County Council."

The vote taken resulted as follows:

AR SON:

Cllr. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, M. Finnerty, T. Gavin, J. McClearn, M. Mullins, M. Ryan & E. Varley (9).

IN AGHAIDH:

GAN VOTAIL:

Cllrs. J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllr. P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Sullivan, P. O'Tuathail, K. Quinn, M. Regan & T. Walsh. (16)

The Chairman declared the Resolution carried.

3. *Prior Notices on Planning Applications*

- (a) *The Protocol Committee recommended that any Councillor submitting Prior Notice must attach a letter of consent from the Applicant and that this requirement come into effect from 1st October, 1997.*

Councillor McClearn objected to this proposal. He stated that all Prior Notices do not relate to Applicants. He also stated that if Councillors were abusing the Prior Notice System that the Councillor involved be spoken to and refused the facility. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain seconded this proposal and highlighted instances of people living on the Aran Islands, where it was not feasible to get signed consent forms.

Councillor Hussey said that he would not propose that the Prior Notice facility be taken away from any Councillor. Any member abusing the system should be identified, and asked to refrain from issuing large quantities of Prior Notices. Councillor Hussey stated that some Councillors are playing politics with the situation and the submission of sixty Prior Notice requests is unreal.

Councillor Gavin stated that the issue of sixty Prior Notice applications in one week is a total abuse of the system. Councillor J. Burke said this is a grave injustice to Councillors as public representatives and surely Councillors should be trusted in not abusing the system.

Councillor W. Burke proposed that from the 1st October, 1997, the requests for Prior Notices be monitored on a monthly basis. Councillor Brennan seconded this proposal.

Councillor O'Neill queried whether Oireachtas Members have access to the Prior Notice facility and proposed that any offending member be called before the Protocol Committee and that the facility of Prior Notice be withdrawn from him/her.

Senator McDonagh seconded this proposal.

Mr. T. Kavanagh, Acting Assistant County Manager said that there is no provision in law for Prior Notice arrangements as operated. This system has been put in place for the benefit of County Councillors only.

Councillor W. Burke withdrew his proposal in favour of Councillor O'Neill's proposal.

Councillor T. Walsh suggested that the relevant Councillors be approached by the County Manager or County Secretary regarding the abuse of the Prior Notice Facility.

The Chairman stated that Galway County Council had received a letter dated 26th September, 1997 from Mr. J. O'Connor of Castletownbere, West Cork seeking a nomination for the Office of Uachtarán na hEireann from Galway County Council. This letter was received on the 29th September, 1997. The Members noted same.

ESTIMATES MEETINGS

4482

The Members agreed that a Pre-Estimates Meeting will be held on Friday, 31st October, 1997 in the Council Offices, Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway and the Statutory Estimates Meeting will be held on Monday, 10th November, 1997 in Western Health Board, Merlin Park, Galway.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING

4483

The Members agreed that the October Monthly Meeting will be held on Monday, 20th October, 1997 in the Council Offices, Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway.

REPORT OF THE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1997

4484

The Chairman said that the following items were discussed at the Protocol Committee Meeting which had been held in the Council Offices, Liosban Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway at 2.30 p.m. that same day.

1. Venue for Council Meetings

The Committee recommended that for a trial period of three months, the Special Planning Meetings be held in the Council Offices, Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway. The Members agreed and welcomed same.

2. Telephone System

Mr. Kavanagh, Acting Assistant County Manager said that a list of Telephone numbers for the Planning, Housing, Finance Sections, etc. will be circulated to the Members. These telephone numbers will be direct line numbers, if the number is engaged, an alternative number will be sought. The revised phone numbers will be circulated once agreed with Telecom Eireann. Mr. Kavanagh stated that these phone numbers are for the Councillors use only.

The Members thanked the Acting Assistant County Manager for organising same.

The Chairman stated that Galway County Council had received a letter dated 26th September, 1997 from Mr. J. O'Connor of Castletownbere, West Cork seeking a nomination for the Office of Uachtarán na hEireann from Galway County Council. This letter was received on the 29th September, 1997. The Members noted same.

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REPORT OF THE PROTOCOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1997

4484

The Chairman said that the following items were discussed at the Protocol Committee Meeting which had been held in the Council Offices, Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway at 2.30 p.m. that same day.

1. **Venue for Council Meetings**

The Committee recommended that for a trial period of three months, the Special Planning Meetings be held in the Council Offices, Liosbán Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway. The Members agreed and welcomed same.

2. **Telephone System**

Mr. Kavanagh, Acting Assistant County Manager said that a list of Telephone numbers for the Planning, Housing, Finance Sections, etc. will be circulated to the Members. These telephone numbers will be direct line numbers, if the number is engaged, an alternative number will be sought. The revised phone numbers will be circulated once agreed with Telecom Eireann. Mr. Kavanagh stated that these phone numbers are for the Councillors use only.

The Members thanked the Acting Assistant County Manager for organising same.

3. **Prior Notices on Planning Applications**

- (a) *The Protocol Committee recommended that any Councillor submitting Prior Notice must attach a letter of consent from the Applicant and that this requirement come into effect from 1st October, 1997.*

Councillor McClearn objected to this proposal. He stated that all Prior Notices do not relate to Applicants. He also stated that if Councillors were abusing the Prior Notice System that the Councillor involved be spoken to and refused the facility. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain seconded this proposal and highlighted instances of people living on the Aran Islands, where it was not feasible to get signed consent forms.

Councillor Hussey said that he would not propose that the Prior Notice facility be taken away from any Councillor. Any member abusing the system should be identified, and asked to refrain from issuing large quantities of Prior Notices. Councillor Hussey stated that some Councillors are playing politics with the situation and the submission of sixty Prior Notice requests is unreal.

Councillor Gavin stated that the issue of sixty Prior Notice applications in one week is a total abuse of the system. Councillor J. Burke said this is a grave injustice to Councillors as public representatives and surely Councillors should be trusted in not abusing the system.

Councillor W. Burke proposed that from the 1st October, 1997, the requests for Prior Notices be monitored on a monthly basis. Councillor Brennan seconded this proposal.

Councillor O'Neill queried whether Oireachtás Members have access to the Prior Notice facility and proposed that any offending member be called before the Protocol Committee and that the facility of Prior Notice be withdrawn from him/her.

Senator McDonagh seconded this proposal.

Mr. T. Kavanagh, Acting Assistant County Manager said that there is no provision in law for Prior Notice arrangements as operated. This system has been put in place for the benefit of County Councillors only.

Councillor W. Burke withdrew his proposal in favour of Councillor O'Neill's proposal.

Councillor T. Walsh suggested that the relevant Councillors be approached by the County Manager or County Secretary regarding the abuse of the Prior Notice Facility.

Councillor Mannion highlighted the self regulatory role of Protocol Committee and that this matter should be dealt with by the elected members of the Council. This was agreed by the Council.

The Chairman noted that it was agreed by the Council that Councillor O'Neill's proposal that the Protocol Committee would request the relevant Councillor(s) to attend a meeting of the Protocol Committee, and that the Committee would have the full approval of the Council to state that the Council is not in favour of current abuse of the system Prior Notice for planning applications. The Chairman also stated that the System would be monitored with effect from 1st October, 1997. The Members agreed to both proposals.

The Protocol Committee also recommended that Prior Notice should be effective until final decision is made on all planning applications. The Members agreed to this proposal.

A further recommendation of the Committee was that in case of Applicant being granted permission that notification would issue to the Councillor 3 days after notice issued to the applicant.

Senator McDonagh requested that Councillors be contacted by phone, when time is running out, where there is difficulty in relation to a particular planning application.

The Members agreed to same.

The Chairman reiterated that the following had been agreed by the Members.

Protocol Committee would discuss with the relevant Councillor(s) the abuse of the Prior Notice facility. In the event of a Councillor ignoring the Protocol Committee the facilities would be withdrawn. Requests for Prior Notice would be effective until the planning application reaches conclusion. In the event of Councillor ignoring the Protocol Committee the facilities would be withdrawn.

PRESENTATION OF EU PACTE PROJECT

4485

The Acting County Secretary gave a presentation on Galway County Council's participation in EU PACTE Programme. A report dated 5th September, 1997 outlining same was circulated to each Member.

The Chairman thanked Mr. E. Power for his presentation.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain welcomed this presentation and complimented Mr. E. Power and the Staff involved in the PACTE Programme. He stated that Galway County Council's involvement in such Programmes is extremely valuable and an

important step towards developing links with European Countries. The experience gained will pave the way for bigger funding. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stressed that the NASC Office should be used more, especially coming up to the changes in E.U. funding arrangements. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain hoped that Galway County Council in partnership with other Local Authorities will progress from here.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

4486

Official Opening of Tuam Sewerage Scheme

Mr. O'Donoghue, County Manager, informed the Members that the Minister for the Environment and Local Government, Mr. N. Dempsey had acknowledged the invitation to officially open Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme and will contact the Council with a suitable date in the near future. The Minister hopes to meet and speak with all the Councillors in the coming weeks. The Members noted and welcomed the Minister's comments.

Better Local Government Programme for Change Seminar

The County Manager indicated that it was proposed to hold a half day seminar on Friday, 14th November, 1997 commencing at 2.30 p.m. to brief the Members on the implementation of the proposals in the document. He said that Members would be notified of the venue shortly

The proposal was agreed by the Members.

West Regional Authority

The County Manager informed the Members of Circular letter dated 31st July, 1997 from the Department of the Environment bringing into operation the proposal in Better Local Government - a program for change, to designate responsibility for Regional Authorities to City/County Managers. The Manager said he will discuss this matter with the Regional Authority regarding future developments. He said that what is proposed is that the Galway County Manager will be Manager of the West Regional Authority for the first two years and thereafter that the post will rotate to the Managers within the Region. The Members noted same.

Traffic Calming Measures at Claregalway and Moycullen

The Manager informed the Members that approval from the National Roads Authority was received to the proposed Traffic Calming Measures at Claregalway and provision of a pedestrian crossing at Moycullen. The Members noted and welcomed same.

CONFERENCES

4487

Having noted the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Ryan and agreed that the following Members be nominated to attend the conferences set out below:-

International Perspective on Great Irish Famine - Dublin Castle - 9/10 May, 1997

Cllr. M. Regan

La Touche Legacy Seminar - Greystones, Co. Wicklow - 3/5 October, 1997

Cllr. M. Cunningham

Cllr. M. Fahy

Cllr. P. McHugh

An Ghaeilge agus An Pobal - Dungarvan - 3/5 October, 1997

Cllr. T. Byrne

LAMA Conference - Bray, Co. Wicklow - 10/12 October, 1997

Cllr. M. O'Neill

Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta

Cllr. P. McHugh

Cllr. J. Callanan

Cllr. E. Varley

Cllr. T. Byrne

Cllr. M. Loughnane

Cllr. J. McClearn

Hazardous Waste -Imperial Hotel, Cork - 6/7 November, 1997

Cllr. P. McHugh

Deputy P. McCormack

Cllr. J. Callanan

Role of Local Government - Ballina, Killaloe, Co. Tipperary - 7/8 November, 1997

Cllr. P. O'Tuathail

Cllr. P. McHugh

Cllr. M. Ryan

Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

4488

Presentation by General Council of County Councils

The Chairman informed the Members that a representative from the General Council of County Councils wished to address the Council. It is proposed that this presentation will take place on Friday, 14th November, 1997.

The Members agreed to same.

Presentation by Council for the West. - Retention of objective 1 status

The Chairman said that a request to make a short presentation to the Members was received by the Council for West. It is proposed that this presentation will also take place on 14th November, 1997.

The Members agreed to same.

Register of Electors

The Chairman informed the Members that people who applied for inclusion on the Supplementary Register for the Election of 6th June, 1997 will automatically be included on the Supplementary Register for the Presidential Election. He reminded the Members of the closing date for inclusion on the Supplementary Register, i.e. 11th October, 1997.

The Members requested that a public information notice should be relayed on the local media, in addition to advertisements in local newspapers to ensure maximum coverage.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 13 - PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE - CLLR. J. BRENNAN 4489

The following written reply was given to Councillor Brennan:-

"This item was dealt with under Item 6 on the Agenda."

N.O.M. NO. 14 - FOOTPATHS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4490

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"Remedial works were recently carried out at the above location."

N.O.M. NO. 15 - ROAD - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4491

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The matter is being investigated at present and a reply will be sent to you within the next few days."

N.O.M. NO. 16 - FOOTPATHS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 4492

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"No funds have been provided in the current year for the provision of footpath at the Community Centre. A budget of £9,000 has been provided for carrying out remedial repair works on the old Limerick Road in the vicinity of the Convent/Service Station area."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - GRASS TRIMMING - CLLR. M. FAHY 4493

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"A budget of £5,000 was provided in the 1997 Road Works Programme for the carrying out of verge trimming in the Gort Engineering area.

The programme is ongoing at present.

The possibility of increasing the budget in 1998 will be considered when the 1998 Road Works Programme is being prepared."

N.O.M. NO. 18 - CLOONSEE G.W.S. - CLLR. M. FAHY 4494

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"In reference to the above Notice of Motion, I am to advise that the County Council will be corresponding with the Organiser of Cloonsee Group Supply Scheme, advising him of the requirements necessary in forming a group water scheme."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES - CLLR M. FAHY 4495

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"Ardrahan village will be included along with other locations when request for funding in 1998 is being made."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4496

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"Routine maintenance will be carried out at the above location as soon as possible."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - ROAD SAFETY - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4497

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"There are no funds available to carry out the above works in the current year."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 4498

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"The above location will be considered along with others when the 1998 school flashing lights programme is being prepared."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - FOOTPATH - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4499

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"It is not possible to carry out the above works in the current year as no provision has been made in the 1997 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - BRIDGE - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4500

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"No provision has been made in the 1997 Road Works Programme for the widening of bridge at above location."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 4501

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Works will be carried out at the above locations under the 1997 Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - CHEVRON SIGNS - CLLR. J. MCCLEARN 4502

The following written reply was given to Councillor McClearn:-

"Signs will be erected at the above location within the next few weeks."

N.O.M. NO. 27 - SIGNS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4503

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This location is included under the 1997 Low Cost Accident Measures recently allocated by the National Roads Authority and works will be carried out as soon as possible."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - RUMBLE STRIPS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4504

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Improvements along the lines suggested are being included under the Low Cost Accident Reduction Schemes."

N.O.M. NO. 29 - TURLOUGHMORE VILLAGE - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 4505

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Flooding at the above location will be monitored over the coming weeks in order to establish the best remedial action required."

**N.O.M. NO. 30 - BOTHER - AN COMH. C. NI 4506
FHATHARTA**

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

"Ni bheidh muid indhon an mbóthar seo a dheisiú i mbliana toisc nach bhfuil sé luaithe i gclár na mboithre 1997. Tá sé luaithe sa bplean 1998-2000 le haghaidh 1998."

**N.O.M. NO. 31 - DROICHEAD - AN COMH. C. 4507
NI FHATHARTA**

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

"Beidh an foireann design ag déanamh scrúdú ar na droichid seo chomh luath agus is féidir."

**N.O.M. NO. 32 - SOILSE POIBLI - AN COMH. C. NI 4508
NI FHATHARTA**

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

Beidh muid ag scrúdú cás na h-aiteacha thuas luaithe nuair a bheidh muid ag cur clár na Soilsi Poiblí 1998 le ceile."

N.O.M. NO. 33 - ROAD - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 4509

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

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

**N.O.M. NO. 34 - IMPROVEMENT WORKS - CLLR. S. 4510
O'NEACHTAIN**

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

"The 1997 allocations have already been fully expended. This location will be considered along with others when preparing the 1998 Road Works Scheme."

N.O.M. NO. 35 - LAY-BYES - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 4511

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

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-
"I refer to your Notice of Motion No. 35 on Agenda that Galway County Council would adopt as policy the building of lay-byes along narrow county roads to facilitate passing traffic. The following is the reply:

"I would not recommend the adoption of a universal policy of building lay-byes along narrow county roads because of its likely demand on the scarce resources available.

Individual cases can be considered in the light of available funding - particularly where such could be carried out in conjunction with strengthening or other grant aided work."

N.O.M. NO. 36 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. P. 4512
O'SULLIVAN

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

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

N.O.M. NO. 37 - ROAD RESURFACING - CLLR. P. 4513
O'SULLIVAN

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

"There are no proposals to re-surface this road. The estimated cost would be approximately £3,600. Potholes will be repaired using the Notice of Motion funds allocated by you."

N.O.M. NO. 38 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. 4514
P. O'SULLIVAN

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

"There are no funds available to carry out improvements this year. If the local community wish to apply to have work done as part of the Community Involvement in Roadworks Scheme in 1998, application should be made before 31/10/'97. The application form is enclosed herewith."

N.O.M. NO. 39 - PUBLIC LIGHT - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4515

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"This location will be considered along with others when the 1998 Public Lighting Programme is being prepared."

N.O.M. NO. 40 - PUBLIC LIGHT - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4516

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"The provision of a light at Tom Monaghan's on the Galway Road will be included in the 1998 Public Lighting Programme. An order has been placed with the E.S.B. for the provision of a light outside Actons. They will again be contacted in order to expedite same.

N.O.M. NO. 41 - TRAFFIC COUNTS - CLLR. E. VARLEY 4517

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"Traffic surveys were carried out on the N84 at two locations during the hours between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. this summer.

The volumes recorded were:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| (1) North of Headford | 2,149 vehicles |
| (2) City boundary | 5,883 vehicles." |

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed

Michael Finerty

Chairman

20 Oct 1997

Date