

COUNTY **COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE** 5353

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 1st MARCH, 1999

CATHAOIRLEACH: An Comhairleoir J. Brennan

LLATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Fahy, P. Finnegan, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, 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. Nelson, Deputy Co. Manager, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, A/Asst. Co. Manager, E. Power, A/Co. Secretary, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, G. McCarthy, L. Kavanagh, Senior Exec. Planner, M. Flynn, Executive Planner, P. Ridge, L. Gavin, S.E.E.s, P. Redmond, Architect, A. Comer, Assistant Planner, D. Barrett, A.O., B. McDermott & P. Carroll, S.S.O., M. Creaven, A.S.O. & G. Cooley, C.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

5352

Mrs. Mary Costello, Cross, New Inn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
Mr. Steve Lane, Fair Green Estate, Tuam, Co. Galway
Fr. Gerry Needham, C.C., Headford, Co. Galway

On the proposal of Councillor Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Councillor Conneely the Council approved the disposal of 2.59 acres at Carna, Co. Galway to Coiste na nAosach Teoranta in accordance with Notice dated 11th February 1999 under

COUNTY HALL

5353

The Chairman and Members complimented the Manager and Staff and the Contractor, Michael McNamara & Co., for the excellent new Council Headquarters.

CONGRATULATIONS

5354

It was noted that the Council had received an award from the Irish Planning Institute in respect of the Urban and Village Renewal Scheme. The Chairman and Members congratulated Ms. Mary Flynn, Planner and the Council Staff associated with the Scheme.

MINUTES

5355

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 8th January 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman on the proposal of Councillor Finnerty, seconded by Councillor Mullins.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 25th January 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Finnerty.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 24th July 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Quinn.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 28th September 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor J. Burke.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on 8th December 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Mullins, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 21st December 1998 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Walsh.

SALE OF SITE

5356

On the proposal of Councillor Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Councillor Conneely the Council approved the disposal of 2.59 acres at Carna, Co. Galway to Coiste na nAosach Teoranta in accordance with Notice dated 11th February 1999 under

Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

**NOMINATION OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF 5357
MEITHEAL FORBARTHA NA GAELTACHTA TEORANTA**

It was proposed by Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Gavin that An Comhairleoir O Tuathail be nominated to the Board of Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teoranta.

It was proposed by An Comhairleoir O Neachtain, seconded by Councillor Conneely that An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta be nominated to the Board of Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teoranta.

A vote was taken on the proposals which resulted as follows:-

IN FAVOUR OF CLLR. O'TUATHAIL

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, Deputy P. Connaughton, M. Finnerty, S. Gavin, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. M. Mullins, M. O'Neill, P. O'Tuathail, M. Ryan, E. Varley & T. Walsh. (17)

IN FAVOUR OF CLLR. O'NEACHTAIN

Cllrs. J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, K. Quinn & M. Regan (10)

The Chairman declared that An Comhairleoir O Tuathail was the Council's nomination to the Board of Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teoranta.

**NOMINATION OF MEMBER TO THE REGIONAL 5358
LEADER COMMITTEE OF COMHDHAIL OILEAIN
NA hEIREANN**

It was proposed by an Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Councillor Conneely, that An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain be nominated to the Regional Leader Committee of Comhdháil Óileáin na hÉireann.

It was proposed by Senator McDonagh, seconded by An Comhairleoir O Tuathail that Councillor Gavin be nominated to the Regional Leader Committee of Comhdháil Óileáin na hÉireann.

A vote was taken on the proposals which resulted as follows:-

IN FAVOUR OF CLLR. O'NEACHTAIN

Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Planning said that he had examined both pieces of
Cllrs. J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane,
P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, K. Quinn & M. Regan (11)

IN FAVOUR OF CLLR. S. GAVIN

Cllrs. J. Brennan, J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, Deputy P. Connaughton, M. Finnerty,
S. Gavin, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs.
M. Mullins, M. O'Neill, P. O'Tuathail, M. Ryan, E. Varley & T. Walsh. (17)

The Draft Development Plan had been circulated to the members and had been
The Chairman declared that Councillor Gavin be nominated to the Regional Leader
Committee of Comhdháil Oileáin na hÉireann.

TO CONSIDER DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA & ENVIRONS 5359

The Draft Development Plan for Loughrea and Environs was circulated to the
The Draft Development Plan for Loughrea and Environs was circulated to the
members and had been considered at the Loughrea Electoral Committee meeting on
8/2/99. It was proposed by Cllr. Michael Regan seconded by Cllr J. McClearn and
agreed that the Draft Development Plan For Loughrea and Environs be approved for
public display.

Cllr. Matt Loughnane proposed that a submission received from the Heritage Council
Cllr. Matt Loughnane proposed that a submission received from the Heritage Council
in relation to the Draft Development Plan for Athenry should be integrated into the
Development Plan for Loughrea.

This was seconded by Cllr. Michael Fahy.
This was seconded by Cllr. Michael Fahy.

Deputy Paul Connaughton wanted to know what steps were involved in adopting a
Deputy Paul Connaughton wanted to know what steps were involved in adopting a
Development Plan and what consultative process will be available to the public.

Mr. John Tierney, Assistant Co. Manager replied that the first step will be to put the
Mr. John Tierney, Assistant Co. Manager replied that the first step will be to put the
Draft Plan on display for a period of 3 months. During the display period
submissions and representations can be made by the public and maximum public
consultation will be provided during that period.

Cllr. Willie Burke recommended that when the Draft Plan is put on public display, it
Cllr. Willie Burke recommended that when the Draft Plan is put on public display, it
should also be advertised on Galway Bay F.M.

TO CONSIDER MARKET HILL, CLIFDEN REJUVENATION PLAN 5360

It was proposed by Cllr. John Mannion, seconded by Councillor Conneely and agreed
It was proposed by Cllr. John Mannion, seconded by Councillor Conneely and agreed
that this Plan should be submitted to the Department of Finance however he wished to
have two additional areas included, namely: Smugglers Lodge and a terraced area
fronting Bridge St. as discussed at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee meeting
in Clifden on 2nd February, 1999.

Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Planning said that he had examined both pieces of land concerned and will discuss it further with the Consultants, however, he felt that the terrace of houses did not meet with Department criteria but that if the Council wished to have it included, he would do so.

**TO CONSIDER DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 5361
SCHEDULED TOWN OF CLIFDEN**

The Draft Development Plan had been circulated to the members and had been considered at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee meeting on 2/9/99. It was proposed by Cllr. John Mannion seconded by Cllr J. Conneely and agreed that the Draft Development Plan for Clifden be approved for public display.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT ON DRAFT DEVELOPMENT 5362
PLAN FOR SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY**

Chairman Joe Brennan requested Mr. John Tierney Asst. Co. Manager to address the meeting.

Mr. John Tierney Asst. Co. Manager said that the Draft Plan was put on display for 5 months in 1998. A report was prepared by Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Planning on 5th February, 1999 and the report was considered at the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee meeting on the 8th February, 1999 and again on the 12th February, 1999. Oral hearings were held on the 23rd and 24th February, 1999 and a report prepared on 25th February, 1999 by Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Planning containing the submissions and details of the Oral Hearings and this had been circulated to the members. The minutes of the meetings of 8th February, 1999 and 12th February, 1999 had been circulated to the members at the commencement of the meeting. He advised that further copies of the Draft Plan for Athenry were available if required. He then requested Mr. G McCarthy, Sen. Executive Planning to give an overview of the submissions.

Mr. Gus McCarthy, Sen. Executive Planning read his report of 5th February, 1999 a copy of which had been circulated to the members as follows:

"A Draft Plan for Athenry was prepared in early 1998. This plan proposed the rezoning of approximately 350 acres of land to residential use in addition to 50 acres already zoned but not developed. At an average density of 8 houses per acre the zoned land could accommodate over 3,000 houses or a population equivalent in excess of 9,000. The Draft Plan is in fact a 20 year plan as opposed to a 5 year plan.

The population of Athenry Town was 1,614 in 1996, up from 1,612 in 1991 but down from 1,668 in 1986. However the growth rate since 1996 has been much more significant as is evidenced by the number of recent planning applications and houses under construction.

A plan must provide for the growth rate of the town, which is deemed appropriate from a planning viewpoint over the period of the plan, while at the same time allowing for (a) zoned lands which will not be available for development over the plan period for reasons such as unwillingness by landowners to sell and (b) choice in terms of location and density for future residents.

An assessment of an appropriate rate of growth for Athenry would be based on the following considerations:

- (a) Current size of the town.*
- (b) Conservation of existing features such as natural and built heritage.*
- (c) Adequacy of existing infrastructure and realistic prospect of infrastructure being provided to meet planned new development (including: roads, water, sewage, recreation and amenity/community facilities).*
- (d) Likely impact on the social fabric of the town and the need to preserve its identity.*

The proposals in the Draft Plan rely on a current high growth rate, which, if it continues, will place the town's infrastructure under considerable pressure. The Draft Plan was approved by the Loughrea Area Committee on 20th April 1998 and by the entire Council on 27th April 1998.

Submissions

During the public display period a total of 21 submissions were received. Of those, 7 are requesting the rezoning of further lands to residential use.

Of the remainder, 12 raise issues which fundamentally question the thrust of the Draft Plan. In general terms these submissions are concerned with:

- (a) The zoning of excessive amounts of land for residential use.*
- (b) Lack of infrastructure to cope with existing and prospective demand.*
- (c) Impact of proposed zoning and proposed roads on the town's unique character and heritage.*

Galway Transportation and Planning Study

The Draft Plan must also have regard to the Galway Transportation and Planning Study. This study is unlikely to recommend any significant development in Athenry as there is no realistic possibility of a rail link between the town and Galway City being developed for commuter services over the Galway Planning and Transportation Study period (i.e. up to 2016). Therefore, commuter journeys generated by existing and future development would have to use a road link, which is already inadequate. The traffic situation within Athenry itself would be further exacerbated as the bulk of the proposed residential zoning is located to the north east of the town. The resulting traffic would have to come through the town, negotiating narrow streets and further restricted by railway crossings. A copy of a letter dated 3rd February 1999 from

Monthly Meeting - 01/03/1999

Colin Buchanan and Partners Consultants (Galway Transportation and Planning Study) re Athenry is attached.

Conclusion

On the basis of:

- (a) Submissions received from community groups/individuals with respect of the Draft Plan.
- (b) My concerns with the main provisions of the Draft Plan in the area of zoning, roads and heritage - as outlined above.
- (c) Conflict between the Draft Plan and the preferred strategy being put forward by the Galway Transportation and Planning Study.

I recommend that the review of the Athenry Town Plan start afresh and that Consultants be employed to undertake this task. A brief would be prepared for this exercise which would require extensive public consultation prior to the preparation of a new Draft Plan. A further extension of time on the 1992 Town Plan would be necessary in such circumstances and should be sought without delay."

Cllr. Willie Burke asked the Asst. Co. Manager to outline the proposals made and the vote taken at the meeting of the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee for the benefit of the Council Members not present at that meeting .

Mr. John Tierney Asst. Co. Manager said that while he had no problem clarifying the proceedings at the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee meetings he advised that members should first consider Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Plannings report on the submissions received .

This was agreed

Details of the submissions received and a report thereon had been circulated to the members for consideration. Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Planning then commented on all the submissions received as follows and he identified each one on a map:

I.

Name: **Denis Coen**

Location: **Ballydavid South, Athenry**

Request: **To re-zone 0.96 acres from Agriculture to Residential**

Details: **With the exception of this site as outlined Mr. Coen's lands have all been re-zoned to residential in the Draft Plan. He wishes to build a detached house and septic tank on 0.5 acres and leave the remaining 0.46 acres open space.**

Observations

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A total of 4.91 ha. are outlined in Mr. Coen's submission as being in his ownership. These lands were zoned for agricultural use in the 1992 Plan for Athenry. The Draft Plan proposed the rezoning of 4.52 ha. from agricultural to residential. The Draft Plan proposed the rezoning of approximately 340 acres of land to residential use in addition to approximately 60 acres already zoned but not developed.

Recommendations

No change recommended in the zoning of the 0.39 ha.

2.

Name: **Murtagh Qualter**

Location: **Gorteenacra, Athenry**

Request: **To re-zone lands from Agriculture to Residential**

Details: **Mr Qualter's lands include a site already zoned residential adjacent to the public road but the majority of the lands are backlands to the rear of this site.**

Observations

A total of 2.39 ha. are outlined as Mr. Qualter's land as being in his ownership. These lands were zoned for agricultural use in the 1992 Athenry Town Plan. The Draft Plan proposes the rezoning of approximately 0.36 acres from agricultural to residential use with the remaining 2.03 ha. continuing in agricultural zoning. The Draft Plan proposes the rezoning of approximately 340 acres of land to residential use in addition to approximately 60 acres already zoned but not developed.

Recommendations

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - ZONING ISSUES

3.

Name: **Tom Coffey, Coffey Construction**

Location: **Caherroyn, Athenry**

Request: **Mr. Coffey's lands are currently zoned for Agriculture and he wishes the 5 acres to be re-zoned to residential**

Details: **The land adjoins 3 existing Council houses and a further 3 are proposed for the Council site.**

Observations

The lands outlined are on the perimeter of the area zoned for residential use in the Draft Plan. The Draft Plan proposes the rezoning of approximately 340 acres to

residential use in addition to approximately 60 acres already zoned but not developed.

Recommendations

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

4. *change recommended in the rezoning of these lands.*

Name: **Catherine Mary O'Brien/Sobel & Michael Joseph O'Brien**

Location: **Cullairbaun, Park, Athenry**

Request: **To re-zone lands from open space (recreational) to residential**

Details: **There are two plots of land in the O'Briens ownership. Plot A 3.927 ha. and Plot B 3.927 ha.**

Details: **Plot A is already zoned residential in the Draft Plan and Plot B has been zoned open space. It is Plot B that the O'Briens wish to have re-zoned residential**

Observations

The lands which comprise 4.9 ha. in total are located on the edge of the residential area in the Draft Plan.
A total of 7.85 ha. are outlined in maps submitted in support of this submission. Of this 4.68 ha. was zoned for residential use in the 1992 Athenry Town Plan with the remainder in agricultural zoning. The Draft Plan proposes the rezoning of approximately 0.75 ha. from residential to amenity use.

Recommendations

Recommendations
The rezoning of the portion (i.e. 0.75 ha.) to residential which was zoned residential in the 1992 Athenry Plan is recommended.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - ZONING ISSUES

5.

Name: **Gerard Holian**

Location: **Raheen, Athenry**

Request: **To re-zone land from Industrial to Residential/Commercial**

Details: **The site of 2.59 ha. is located adjacent to the railway line behind the Byrne Mech Factory whose lands are also zoned Industrial. The lands adjacent to this site are zoned residential in the Draft Plan.**

Observations

reason for refusal given that such a development is not permitted in a Residential zone. All the lands around the site are zoned Residential in the Draft Plan.

The lands which are the subject of this submission form part of a larger industrial area and such industrial lands are necessary to provide employment for the future expansion of Athenry. The lands were also zoned industrial in the 1992 Athenry Town Plan.

Recommendations

No change recommended in the rezoning of these lands.

6.

Name: **Thomas J. Divilly**

Location: Carrantarmid, Athenry

Request: To re-zone lands from Agriculture to Residential

Details: The site measures 6.53 ha. and is zoned for Agriculture adjacent to lands zoned Residential.

Observations

The lands which comprise 4.9 ha. in total are located on the edge of the residential zone and were outside of the zoning boundary in the 1992 Athenry Town Plan and therefore were unzoned. The Draft Plan proposed the rezoning of approximately 340 acres of land to residential use in addition to approximately 60 acres of undeveloped land already zoned in the 1992 Athenry Town Plan. The lands are outside the zoned area in the Draft Plan.

Recommendations

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - ZONING ISSUES

7.

Name: **Sean Lawless**

Location: Caherroyn, Athenry

Request: To re-zone lands from Residential to Residential/Commercial

Details: The site already has Outline Permission for a shopping development and associated siteworks. It measures 0.201 ha. reference no. 97/1669. It was also refused permission for a petrol filling station one reason for refusal given that such a development is not permitted in a Residential zone. All the lands around the site are zoned Residential in the Draft Plan.

Observations

The site in question was zoned for residential use in the 1992 Town Plan and is proposed for residential zoning in the 1998 Draft Plan. Neighbourhood/local shops are a permissible use in residential zones. It is not advisable from a planning view point at this stage to rezone lands outside of the town centre for retail use as such development would be detrimental to the central area which is the principle retail/commercial area in the town.

Recommendations

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

8.

Name: **Charles Taylor**

Location: Town House, Athenry

Request: To retain the zoning of lands, Residential and Residential/Commercial

Details: These lands are the subject of a planning application for a housing development.

Observations

The lands which are the subject of the submission were zoned partly agricultural and partly residential in the 1992 Athenry Town Plan. The Draft Plan proposes the rezoning of the lands to part residential part commercial/residential. Mr. Taylor has not requested any change from the proposed zoning.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - ROADS

9. (a)

Name: **Robert P. Reilly**

Location: Old Church Street, Athenry

Request: Objection to a proposed new road beginning at Swangate and continuing behind Hansberry's Hotel running parallel with the North-West portion of the town wall.

Details: The proposed new road would according to Mr. Reilly affect a residential property owned by his parents, James & Kathryn Reilly, who have also lodged an individual objection to the same issue.

9. (b)

Name: **James & Kathryn Reilly**

Location: Old Church Street, Athenry

Request: Objection to the proposed new road as outlined above.

Observations

The location of the proposed inner relief roads need further examination in the context of an overall traffic management strategy for the town. This is particularly important in Athenry's case in view of the likely impact of the proposed roads on the towns heritage.

10.

Name: **Vincent Shields**

Location: Athenry Town Centre

Request: Objection to the proposed new ring road

Details: Mr. Shields believes that if the ring road goes ahead as proposed it will have a major detrimental effect on existing flora and fauna. It will also affect Mr. Shields privacy and enjoyment of an area in which he has invested considerable time and finances. In addition to this it will also remove a natural amenity which is currently being enjoyed by the local people.

Observations

The location of the proposed inner relief roads need further examination in the context of an overall traffic management strategy for the town. This is particularly important in Athenry's case in view of the likely impact of the proposed roads on the towns heritage.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

11.

Name: **Western Regional Fisheries Board**

Location: The Clarin River

Request: The Board requests that a review of the operation of the sewage works should be undertaken and that access to the river for general amenity purposes could be improved and enhanced in order to improve the environmental image of the town.

Details: The Draft Plan should address the following:

- (a) The need for phosphate removal facilities at the Local Authority sewage works.
- (b) The need to examine storm outfalls in the town and environs.
- (c) The need to review treatment capacity in terms of projected

Raheen Hilltop wastewater volumes and population growth. and monuments to be protected.

Observations

The issues raised in this submission relate to:-

- (a) The opening up of the banks of the Clarin River for amenity use
- (b) Impact of sewage discharges on the river
- (c) Storm outfalls in the town

These matters require further examination and where relevant will be taken up with Sanitary Services Department.

12.

Name: **Ballygurrane Residents Association**

Location: Raheen/Ballygurrane Road/Athenry in general

Request: A number of issues relating to their own area as well as Athenry generally

- Details:
- (a) Raheen hilltop enclosure should be preserved as it is a protected monument.
 - (b) Provision for a play and recreational area in Ballygurrane
 - (c) Housing should be restricted to 4 houses per acre
 - (d) Water and sewerage should be upgraded
 - (e) All native trees should be preserved
 - (f) An area proposed to be re-zoned from Agriculture to Residential on the Ballygurrane Road is unacceptable, and the residents wish it to remain Agriculture
 - (g) The Ballygurrane Road should be upgraded

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

12 (cont/d.)

Name: **Ballygurrane Residents Association**

Observations

The Draft Plan proposes the rezoning of lands on both sides of the Ballygurrane road from agricultural use in the 1992 Town Plan to residential. The general observations made at the end of this submission would require a more fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

The following are observations on some of the specific requests:-

- Raheen Hilltop Enclosure can be included in the list of sites and monuments to be protected.
- The provisions of a play/recreational and amenity area in the general Ballygurraun area could be examined in conjunction with the residential development. However, rezoning of lands proposed for residential use would have to be considered.
- Existing trees and other natural features in the area can be examined with a view to listing for preservation.
- Appropriate housing density will be determined at planning application stage.

13.

Name: **Residents of Ballydavid South**

Location: **General Athenry Area**

Request: **A number of issues in the overall Plan**

- Details:
- (a) Development should take place on the Western fringe of the Town.
 - (b) More Recreational and Commercial developments eg. shopping complex should be provided.
 - (c) Potential large scale development should be on a phased basis.
 - (d) Water and waste disposal systems are inadequate.
 - (e) Proposals seriously threaten the heritage town of Athenry.
 - (f) Amount of re-zoning and population projections should be halved.
 - (g) Road network needs improving.
 - (h) Lands belonging to the Agricultural College should be re-zoned.

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

14.

Name: **Peadar Monaghan**

Location: **Athenry General Area**

Request: **A number of broad issues relating to Athenry**

- Details:
- (a) Upgrading of water and sewerage system as well as improving the roads system.
 - (b) Re-zoning should be spread more evenly reducing congestion.

- (c) *Heritage needs to be protected.*
- (d) *A Town Park and adequate green areas should be provided.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

15.

Name: **Finbar O'Regan**

Location: *Athenry in general*

Request: *Various issues relating to all aspects of the Draft Plan*

- Details:
- (a) *New inner ring road would be detrimental.*
 - (b) *Western ring road is not acceptable.*
 - (c) *Views of certain monuments must be protected.*
 - (d) *Upgrade the Craughwell Road.*
 - (e) *Listed buildings need to be updated.*
 - (f) *Proposed riverside walk from Caheroyn to the Castle to Spittle Gate and Gort na hAbhann.*
 - (g) *Pedestrian access to walls and ramparts.*
 - (h) *Curtail car-parking to provide pedestrian access to the Catholic Church from North Gate Street and Burke's car park.*
 - (i) *Heritage of Athenry should be protected,*
 - (j) *Curtail excavation of the Esker Riada.*
 - (k) *South-eastern ring road may affect the town water supply.*
 - (l) *Street names should be changed to Irish.*
 - (m) *Streets and houses need to be updated. Business places may also have changed hands.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

16.

Name: **Nonnie Monaghan**

Location: *Client's property at Riversdale House and Athenry town in general*

Request: *That 15 acres of Agricultural lands in Athenry which are proposed to be rezoned Residential, they should be developed as a historical park and Ms. Monaghan opposes the residential zoning.*

Details: (a) *The proposed town road network is ill-conceived and*

- (b) *An action plan should be prepared for Ms. Monaghan's property.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

17.

Name: *The Heritage Council*

Name: *Athenry Community Council*

Location: *Athenry Town in general*

Request: *Heritage Council policies have not been adhered to in the Draft Plan.*

Details: (a) *The plan does not appear to be in accordance with Government published strategy on sustainable development.*

Request: (b) *The plan has been adopted in advance of the land use and transportation strategy.*

Details: (c) *Heritage conservation policy and proposals do not appear to be fully integrated into the Draft Plan.*

(d) *Galway County Council should consider the designation of an urban conservation area for Athenry.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

18.

Name: *Athenry Chamber of Commerce*

Location: *Athenry generally*

Request: *A number of issues relating to the Plan*

Details: (a) *The scale of the development and the effects (both visual and physical) it will have on the medieval character of the town.*

(b) *The proposed roads system is unacceptable.*

(c) *No area within the town walls has been kept free of development.*

(d) *Large areas have been zoned for development within the town walls, considerable archaeological input is required.*

(e) *The Plan has fallen short in securing the continual preservation of the medieval town and its character.*

- (f) *There is no assessment in this Plan of what constitutes combining Athenry as either a service or employment centre.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

19.

Name:

Athenry Community Council
Athenry Chamber of Commerce *c/o Halcrow Fox*
Athenry Development Company
Athenry Heritage

Location:

Athenry Plan in general

Request:

A number of difficulties with the Draft Plan

Details:

- (a) *The Draft Plan fails to consider in appropriate depth the overall existing context of Athenry and the opportunities and constraints which may affect future development of the town.*
- (b) *There is no treatment of employment issues nor any consideration of trends or potential for existing or future populations.*
- (c) *There is no consideration of Athenry in its local and regional context.*
- (d) *Proposals are made without justification or reasoning particularly with regard to road provision and water supply.*
- (e) *Strategies and objectives are formulated almost entirely in terms of assisting and facilitating private residential development.*
- (f) *There is a lack of any meaningful linkage between the statement of amenity and heritage concerns. Urban design constraints and opportunities provided by the existing urban fabric and open spaces are listed briefly and only with regard to town centre proposals.*
- (g) *Significant areas are zoned for residential or commercial and residential uses without any indication of urban design guidelines.*
- (h) *There is a total lack of sustainability agenda considerations in terms of the social impact of estimated population growth and the ability of infrastructure to service it.*
- (i) *The long term strategy for heritage and environment is incompatible with transportation proposals, particularly the inner ring road. No safeguards are identified for the*

- (i) adequate protection of heritage assets and environmental quality, including air quality issues arising from traffic increases.
- (j) There is inadequate treatment of the linkage between building to the housing densities proposed and consequent minimum amenity provision.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

19. (cont/d.)

Name: **Athenry Community Council**
Athenry Chamber of Commerce c/o Halcrow Fox
Athenry Development Company
Name: **Athenry Heritage**

- (k) Significant concerns are raised with regard to drainage and water system objectives. No indication is given of how future provision is to be made and funded for such potentially crucial infrastructure.
- (l) There is apparent contradiction in access and road safety terms between the proposed location of a single education campus to the south-west and residential development concentrated to some extent towards the northern parts of the town.
- (m) No analysis is made of the priority or local scale of health, education and welfare needs of the projected population and of the demographics of both the town and its rural hinterland.
- (n) The limited attention paid to employment topics in the Plan is a serious omission in setting the context for future development.
- (o) The proposed road network appears to be related to servicing new residential areas. The impact on heritage concerns and the local environment is not addressed and insufficient attention is paid to the transportation needs of existing residents.
- (p) The serious car-parking and congestion problems in the town centre which need a comprehensive and robust solution are not addressed satisfactorily in the Draft Development Plan.
- (q) Inadequate attention is given to the proposed location of industrial land uses with regard to infrastructure, environmental impact, journey to work and visual amenity.
- (r) Limited indication is given of the provision to be made for projected population increases with regard to civic and recreational amenity.
- (s) Town centre issues require much more detailed treatment, given the international significance of Athenry as a heritage town. This should include detailed urban design guidelines to enhance environmental quality and improve living and working conditions.

- (t) *The international significance of Athenry as a medieval walled town has been jeopardised by the form and type of development proposed by the Draft Plan.*
- (u) *An Action Plan is required for Athenry.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

ATHENRY SUBMISSIONS - GENERAL

20.

- Name:** *Duchas*
- Location:** *The entire town of Athenry*
- Request:** *It is important that the County Council re-states its commitment to forwarding all planning applications relating to the town*
- Details:**
- (a) *The proposed design of stretches of the inner and town centre ring roads might be in conflict with the proposal to keep areas clear of development immediately within and outside the town wall.*
 - (b) *Because works on the interiors of buildings do not require planning permission, important material can be lost in the course of refurbishment, the Draft Plan provides a good opportunity for the County Council to express concerns about this and issue some guidelines.*
 - (c) *All major refurbishments on buildings within the zone of archaeological potential should be preceded by a building survey carried out by an archaeologist.*

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

21.

- Name:** *Ciaran O'Keefe*
- Location:** *Athenry generally*
- Request:** *The Plan should be phased in a number of stages which would provide opportunities to re-evaluate the Plan*
- Details:**
- (a) *Infrastructure needs upgrading.*
 - (b) *Heritage needs to be protected.*
 - (c) *Rezoned areas lack green spaces.*

- (d) Rezoning of lands should be evenly distributed.
- (e) Developments should be restricted to 6 houses per acre.
- (f) A fly-over crossing the Galway-Dublin line is required.

Observations

Adequate consideration of this submission would require a fundamental re-examination of the Draft Plan.

Following the Senior Executive Plannings comments and observations on the 21 submissions the Chairman requested Mr. John Tierney, Asst. Co. Manager to comment on the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee Meetings.

Mr John Tierney, Asst. Co. Manager, pointed out that Cllr. Jim McClearn was at the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 12th February, 1999 although his name was not included as being present on the minutes circulated. He then gave an outline of the first page of the minutes of the meeting of 12th February, 1999 already circulated. He pointed out that the next 15 pages had just been outlined by Mr. Gus McCarthy, Sen. Exec. Planning and he then read the final two pages of the minutes as follows:

"Mr. J. Tierney repeated his introductory remarks in relation to the status of the Area Committee in this process. He stated that the purpose of today's meeting was to go through the objections and representations and make a recommendation on the Draft Plan. If the members decide to continue the process the Council will need a further report from the S.E. Planning and will have to hold the Oral Hearings.

Councillor Michael Regan asked if they agree to go ahead with the Draft, how long will it take.

Mr. G. McCarthy pointed out that the time scale would probably be the same whichever option was chosen.

Mr. J. Colleran pointed out that the result of the Galway Planning and Transportation Study will be known probably in April. He felt that it would be beneficial to have this.

Councillor M. Loughnane enquired why the Council proceeded without the result of the Galway Planning and Transportation Study.

Mr. J. Colleran stated that work had proceeded on the Draft Plan at the time because the review was due.

Councillor W. Burke stated that they had received all the detailed information and he proposed that a recommendation would go before the Council to set aside the Draft and start afresh. This was seconded by Councillor T. Byrne.

Monthly Meeting - 01/03/1999

Councillor M. Loughnane pointed out that the Councillors had already adopted the Draft and the next move was to put the Galway Planning and Transportation Study on the table.

Councillor J. McClearn stated that he considered that there were serious defects in the Draft before the Councillors and it was a 'red herring' to be talking about the Galway Planning and Transportation Study. He had serious reservations previously but having read the submission he is of the opinion that the Plan should be started again. Councillor M. Fahy said that while he supports Councillor Loughnane's views he considered that the best interests of Athenry should be served and that any proposals should be put before all the Council. Councillor W. Burke said that there were seven Councillors present and they should vote and make a recommendation. Councillor M. Loughnane stated that the Council were departing from normal procedure if they set the Draft aside. They should also consider public perception and how long it had taken from when the submissions were received at the end of October to today.

Mr. J. Tierney acknowledged that this is a very difficult issue and to set aside the Draft is the same as rejecting it. The delay from October until now was due to changes in staffing and should not be a scenario for the future.

Councillor M. Fahy pointed out that they will not be deciding today.

Mr. J. Colleran, County Engineer, stated that what Mr. G. McCarthy was saying was that the submissions are conflicting with the Draft Plan and need fundamental examination. We may need to employ consultants to examine the submissions.

Councillor W. Burke requested that a vote be taken.

Councillor M. Loughnane proposed that the Council proceed with the Draft Plan and consider amendments arising from a detailed consideration of the objections and representations received.

Mr. J. Tierney said the Council would have to decide on

- (a) setting aside the Draft
- or
- (b) Proceeding with the Draft with or without amendments.

Councillor M. Loughnane said that there was no proposal to go ahead without amendments.

Councillor Cunningham said that there was a proposal recommending (a) set aside the Draft Plan and start afresh and there was an amendment to that by Councillor Loughnane who (b) proposed that the Council proceed with the Draft and consider amendments arising from a detailed consideration of the objections and representations received. He pointed out that the advice of Mr. G. McCarthy, S.E. Planning, was to set aside the Draft.

Councillor Cunningham requested a show of hands for all in favour of (b). Councillors M. Cunningham, M. Loughnane and M. Fahy voted in favour.

Councillors T. Byrne, W. Burke and J. McClearn voted in favour of (a).

Ms. B. McDermott pointed out that only 6 Councillors had voted and called out the vote as detailed above.

Councillor M. Regan stated that he had voted for the amendment and his vote was not counted.

Councillors W. Burke, T. Byrne and J. McClearn then left the meeting.

It was noted that he was not observed raising his hand by the officials present or by the Chairman.

Mr. J. Tierney said that the situation was unsatisfactory. The Councillors who had left the meeting were recalled but did not return.

Mr. J. Tierney then asked the Chairman for his ruling on the vote.

Councillor M. Cunningham said that he did not see Councillor M. Regan supporting the amendment and therefore ruled that he did not vote and the Chairman then gave his casting vote in favour of the amendment.

The meeting then terminated."

Cllr. Toddie Byrne said he was glad that the details as recorded at the meeting were clarified as it was rumoured that Councillors walked out of the meeting in the Menlo Park Hotel on 12th February, 1999.

Cllr. Michael Regan said that the plan should allow for playing areas and he felt strongly that children must be catered for in this regard. The water and sewerage services and in particular the lack of water pressure must be dealt with. Better services must be put in place before the plan is adopted. Athenry is a historic town and it is necessary to preserve this and he stated that the town wall must not be touched.

Cllr. Regan stated that he wished to go along with Mr. Gus McCarthys recommendation that the review of the Athenry Town Plan start afresh.

Cllr. W. Burke apologised for leaving the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee meeting and said that he was delighted with Cllr. Regans agreement to reject the Draft Plan. He said that many meetings were held with the local communities in Athenry and he complimented the locals on their interest. When the Draft Plan first

came before him he had mixed feelings. He said that the locals had made a very good case to set the Draft aside. Cllr. Burke complimented Mr. Gus McCarthy Senior Executive Planning and the officials on the way they had dealt with the Plan and by allowing the Councillors to be fully informed. He thanked Cllr. T. Byrne and Cllr. J. McClearn for their support. He proposed that the current Draft Plan be set aside and that a review of the Athenry Town Plan start afresh and that Consultants be engaged to do so.

Deputy Paul Connaughton said it was important that Councillors when addressing the town plan bring the local community along and make Athenry a place where people want to live. He said there were 10 groups in Athenry opposed to the Plan:

1. Athenry Community Council
2. Newcastle Community Council
3. Athenry Archaeology Society
4. Festival Committee
5. Project Committee
6. Heritage Council
7. Development Council
8. Chamber of Commerce
9. Pastoral Committee
10. Womens Council.

Athenry is a beautiful town, and there is no other town like it because of its history and heritage. He felt that no matter what Plan is proposed there may be objections. Deputy Connaughton hopes that the next Plan will be more in conformity with what the people of Athenry want. He requested that there should be no delay in commencing the review, and stressed the importance of public consultation.

Cllr. Jimmy McClearn complimented officials for having the courage to say "we got it wrong". In April 1998 Councillors were presented with the Draft Plan and assured that all procedures had been observed. The Councillors had no access to independent advice and acted accordingly. Afterwards they discovered that the people of Athenry were unhappy with the Plan and with the proposed increase in population. He said that the unique heritage of Athenry must be preserved. There is no way to prevent development taking place and substantial development will take place but not on a scale as proposed in the Draft Plan. We have blanket zoning of residential areas and no amenity areas. Who is to provide these and where will the shops and playing fields be?

Athenry needs proper infrastructure Cllr. McClearn stated, however, this will be necessary whether a Plan is in place or not. It is proposed to build an inner road close to the town wall and it is felt that this would cause continuous damage to the wall. If the Plan does not comply with the Department of Environment guidelines when adopted, it would probably be rejected by the Department. The Councillors should put up their hands and say we need to start afresh. Cllr. J McClearn said that he wished to apologise for leaving the Loughrea Electoral Committee meeting the last day. He seconded Cllr. W Burkes proposal.

Cllr. T. Byrne said he was glad that the minutes of the Loughrea Electoral Committee meeting were circulated today because it cleared the air over what happened the last day. At that meeting, he said Cllrs. McClearn, Willie Burke and Toddie Byrne voted that the Draft plan be scrapped. One Councillor indicated that he had supported the other view but he was not observed raising his hand. He had now changed his mind and informed the meeting today of that. He complimented Cllr. M Regan for having the courage to change his point of view. He was of the opinion that the discussions which had taken place were worthwhile. He read the submissions and listened to Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Plannings comments and was of the view that the next step was to set aside the draft.

Cllr. Michael Fahy said he had attended a number of meetings in Athenry and he felt that the Plan put forward a year ago should not be thrown out. He said we should go ahead and make amendments to the Draft Plan. He felt that if the Draft Plan was set aside it would hold up development in Athenry. He fully supports the Draft Plan he said.

Cllr. Joe Burke supported the setting aside of the Draft Plan. He is aware that the outcome of the Galway Planning and Transportation Study is due in a few weeks and we should await this. He complimented Galway County Council officials and said that they had a very good working relationship with the Councillors.

Cllr. Matt Loughnane said that back in April it was proposed by Cllr. Regan and seconded by Cllr. Willie Burke to adopt the Draft Plan for Athenry. Unique events have taken place and he felt that history will be created if the Draft is set aside today. It appears that the plan is bad and raises serious questions with regard to the procedure used when drafting a new plan. He wondered if the same procedure was used when drafting the County Development Plan. It would be remiss of the meeting if a couple of questions raised at the Loughrea meeting are not brought out in the open. Compensation was mentioned at the Area meeting. No mention is being made today. No documentation giving an update on infrastructure, i.e. where stage 2 of Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme is at this point in time.

Then there is the question of the projected size of Athenry and will there be a growth of population to 9,000 in the next 20 years and as such we should plan for that, or is the figure wrong and is the population not envisaged to grow to 9,000 over the next 20 years. He noted that there is a proposal to engage Consultants to prepare a Draft Plan and asked if the public representatives would be able to consult with them.

Cllr. Michael Cunningham said that he had been Chairman of the Loughrea Electoral Committee for the past number of years and all such matters are first brought to that meeting. On this occasion as on similar occasions the issue was debated by the local Councillors and 3 voted for, 3 voted against and 1 dithered. He as Chairman had to make the decision and he voted with his conscience. He had attended a meeting in Athenry and listened to what was said. He was disappointed that the Athenry people had to employ consultants from England to report on the Draft Plan prepared by Mr Brian Callagy, who was a Senior Executive Planner with Galway County Council for a number of years and who did excellent work.

Cllr. Cunningham went on to say that Mr. John Tierney Asst. Co. Manager read the minutes correctly when he indicated that he had exercised his casting vote.

Cllr. Paddy McHugh said that he did not wish to comment on the Athenry Town Plan, but he was approached by Members of Athenry Community and he would be guided by the local Councillors. He wished to comment on the procedures involved in adopting a Town Plan. If the Council at any stage put the Draft Plan on display, this is an indication of the agreement by the Councillors to the Draft Plan. He considered that the Councillors are being treated unfairly as they are relying on the professional advice given by Council officials. The Community have one set of advisors and the Council officials another set.

Cllr. Joe Callanan wished to know if the fears of Athenry Community could be taken on board and relevant amendments made to the Plan.

Mr. John Tierney Asst. Co. Manager responded by saying that the officials had made it clear that the primary reasons for recommending that the Draft Plan be set aside were because the likely recommendations could be so fundamental as to constitute a new Plan.

Cllr. Willie Burke requested that a vote be taken on his proposal to set aside the Draft Plan and that a Review of the Athenry Town Plan start afresh and that Consultants be engaged to do so.

Cllr. Toddie Byrne said that the recommendation from the Loughrea Electoral Committee meeting should be withdrawn. This was agreed and it was then unanimously agreed that the Draft Plan for Athenry be set aside and that the Review of the Athenry Town Plan start afresh.

Mr. John Tierney Asst. Co. Manager pointed out that the present extension of time for the Athenry Plan was granted until the 30th May, 1999 and that a further extension of time is now required. It was proposed by Cllr. Willie Burke and seconded by Cllr. Toddie Byrne and agreed by the Council that a request for a further extension of time should be sought from the Department of Environment to 31st December, 1999.

Cllr. Seamus Gavin wished to know what was the position in relation to the Action Plans for Barna, Moycullen and Oranmore. He was informed by Mr. Gus McCarthy Sen. Executive Planning that the Barna and Oranmore plans were almost complete and may be on the agenda for the next electoral area committee meetings and the Moycullen Plan should be ready at the end of March.

PROGRESS REPORT ON WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 5363

Mr. D. Nelson, Deputy County Manager stated that an Environmental Education Officer had recently been appointed to the Council and the Council's Waste

Management Strategy had achieved good results with a lot of waste been diverted from landfill.

With regard to recycling, he stated that planning permission had been granted for the Aran Islands Recycling Project and site acquisition was proceeding. Referring to Waste Recovery, he stated that a scoping study was being carried out on Thermal Heating.

He stated that the area of 600 acres had been examined at the short-listed three sites for a landfill, had been reduced to 200 acres and he hoped within the next fortnight to seek permission to enter on lands to carry out testing. With regard to the Ballinasloe Landfill site he stated that there was a Court Case pending and that a counter claim had been entered against Ballinasloe U.D.C. which would be opposed.

Deputy Connaughton stated that there was total opposition to the three potential landfill sites and that the public were not aware of the achievements on waste minimisation. He stated that a huge public awareness campaign was required in the county and it was important to make known that the landfill site investigation is commencing in tandem with investigation of a Thermal Treatment Plant. He added that it is now the turn of Galway Corporation to start identifying a site for a Thermal Treatment Plant and that a transparent strategy is required.

Councillor O'Sullivan asked for clarification on intended approaches to landowners at the three sites identified. He stated that Groups were making approaches to the Council regarding systems in operation on the Continent but felt that their approaches were not receiving adequate consideration. He added that the Council should now be in a position to make judgements on the merits of their proposals.

Councillor McClearn stated that there was a discrepancy in the strategy in that the landfill site was to be in place by the year 2005 while the Thermal Treatment Plant was not due until the year 2007, and that for the two years all the waste in County Galway would have to go to landfill. He stated that the Thermal Treatment Plant seems to have been put on the long finger and that locals were incensed regarding the potential landfill sites. He added that one Environmental Education Officer was not adequate to deal with changes to the habits of a lifetime.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that there was an obvious lack of commitment from the city authorities and added that there was too much scaremongering regarding a Super Dump and that the public need to be made aware of the purpose of the whole Waste Management Strategy.

Councillor Callanan queried how permission to enter on lands would be dealt with and what would happen if they were refused permission to enter on lands. He queried why it is necessary to transfer three quarters of the county's waste to East Galway where there is not much soakage available. He stated that every small dump had been closed down and nothing had been done to provide alternatives to landfill. He added that it was common sense to take out half of the waste going to Ballinasloe and to produce heat from it. He stated that if the Council came up with such a proposal it

would be supported. He added that nothing had been done to convince the public that only 17% of waste will go to landfill.

Councillor Finnerty requested confirmation that the waste tonnage in County Galway going to landfill was down to 85,000 tonnes from 120,000 tonnes. He stated that disposal by Thermal Treatment would cost £39 a tonne and that a guarantee of 150,000 tonnes annually was required to make it viable.

Councillor Walsh stated that he understood that there would be no landfill site at Newbridge and he would oppose one. He questioned why refuse was going to one site only and should it not be divided up at sites around the County.

Councillor Mullins stated that recycling and waste minimisation should have started first. He added that the communities in the three short-listed sites in the strategy were now at loggerheads and that a single option should have been chosen. He stated that Galway Corporation should be more involved as the city generates the vast bulk of waste. He supported the notion of exploring the options on Thermal Treatment and stated that the Consultants should meet with the Members to inform them of progress on the Thermal Treatment aspect of the strategy.

Councillor Quinn stated that she would oppose selection of a site at Newbridge and that local opposition was very strong.

Councillor Regan stated that there is plenty of land available for investigation before any decision on a site is made.

Councillor Byrne stated that the support of local communities could be obtained if they can be shown that there is an alternative to landfill. He stated that there has been a reduction in the wheelie bin collection system since costs increased and that there has been more dumping and burning of refuse. He added that the charges for refuse collection in the city is £85 per annum while it is £150 in the county.

The Chairman complimented the local media for their positive efforts in educating people but felt that *Teilifis na Gaeilge* and R.T.E. could contribute more. He stated that the public needed to see the visual impact of a modern landfill site. He added that it was important that the Members fulfil their role. He added that he wanted a definite closing date of 2005 for the Ballinasloe landfill site.

Councillor McClearn stated the City has to come forward with a site for a Thermal Treatment Plant in advance of the selection of a landfill site.

The Deputy County Manager stated that the Waste Management Plan could not be advanced until a strategy had been prepared. The procedure for the Plan would be the same as for the County Development Plan and that he was now informing the Members of the intention to prepare a Joint Waste Management Plan with the Corporation.

He stated that Galway Corporation had taken the Council's waste at Carrowbrowne for the past twenty years and had spent £3m on the landfill in the last few years. He added that the Council had not invested in a proper landfill site and this contributed to the present difficulties.

Referring to waste incineration he stated that one company had sought a guarantee of minimum waste of 200,000 tonnes a year and sought a municipal bond that each tonne would be guaranteed at £30 per tonne. This would involve an undertaking of £6m per annum.

He stated that a Newsletter on the Waste Strategy would be delivered to each household in the county together with separate letters to the public in Ballinasloe and the area of the three potential sites.

He stated that he was advising the Members that it is intended to go ahead with the preparation of a Joint Waste Management Plan with Galway Corporation and that it is likely that Consultants will be appointed. There would be a public consultation process, following which the Plan would be brought before the Members.

He indicated that the Council was obliged to prepare a Waste Management Plan under the Waste Management Act 1996. The Waste Management Plan had to be prepared by the end of June 1999. The contents of the plan has also been prescribed by legislation and the Council did not have any discretion in this regard. The Waste Management Strategy Study is the basis on which the Plan can be prepared.

Councillor Walsh stated that the selection of landfill sites should be shelved until it is known where and when the Thermal Treatment Plant is to be located.

Mr. L. Gavin, S.E.E. stated that there was a discrepancy in the strategy in that the Ballinasloe Landfill site would close in the year 2005 while the Thermal Treatment Plant would be operational in 2007. This discrepancy would be addressed in the Waste Management Plan.

He also stated that it is intended to visit each landowner at the three potential sites and request their permission to enter their lands to carry out site investigation. If the landowners refuse entry, the Council will have to serve notice and to refer the matter to the District Court where necessary.

Councillor Mullins requested that as a gesture to the communities involved that the Council would not approach the landowners until more information is available.

The County Engineer stated that there had been meetings with Consultants regarding the identification of a site for a Thermal Treatment Plant. He expected that the options would be fine-tuned shortly.

Councillor Callanan stated that he wanted the Thermal Treatment option to be identified first before identifying the landfill option.

Councillor McClearn proposed that investigation of the three potential landfill sites be suspended until the site of the Thermal Treatment Plant is identified and that the preparation of the Joint Waste Management Plan be postponed. Councillor Loughnane seconded this proposal.

Mr. Nelson, Deputy County Manager stated that the proposal could have implications for the disposal of waste at Ballinasloe and that efforts by Members to delay the matter would only prolong the problem. He added that the identification of the Thermal Treatment Plant site while important was not as critical as the landfill site.

Councillor Mullins proposed that the investigation of the three sites be suspended until a site or sites for a Thermal Treatment Plant is further examined. Councillor Regan seconded his proposal.

Following discussion by Members it was agreed to take a vote on the following resolution proposed by Councillor McClearn and seconded by Councillor Mullins:

"That Galway County Council suspend investigation of the sites at Kilrickle, New Inn and Newbridge until such time as a firm commitment to the provision of a Thermal Treatment Plant is made, and a site is identified.

The Chairman stated that while he would allow a vote to be taken he was not sure if this procedure was correct..

A vote was then taken on the proposal and which resulted as follows:-

ARSON: Cllrs. J. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Loughnane, J. McClearn, M. Mullins, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan & T. Walsh (12)

IN AGHAIDH: Cllr. J. Brennan, J. Conneely, M. Finnerty, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain & E. Varley (6)

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

APPROVAL FOR PREPARATION OF JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN WITH GALWAY CORPORATION 5364

On the proposal of An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, the Members noted the intention to prepare a Joint Waste Management Plan with Galway Corporation.

REVIEW OF PLANNING CONTROL POLICY 5365

This item was deferred to the Planning Meeting of 12th March 1999.

TO FIX DATES FOR AREA MEETINGS 5366

It was agreed that the dates for Area Committee Meetings would be agreed by the Chairman of each Area Committee.

BORD FAILTE PILOT TOURISM INITIATIVE 5367

This item was deferred.

CONFERENCES 5368

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 cost of the Conferences having been circulated to each Member:-

"Urban Ireland-Rural Ireland" Conference - Malahide - 19/20 Feb. 1999

Cllr. M. Regan Cllr. M. Fahy

Agenda 2000 - Skibbereen - 19 Feb. 1999

Cllr. J. Mannion Cllr. P. O'Tuathail

Partnership in Action Conference - Monaghan - 5/6 March 1999

Cllr. J. Mannion Cllr. T. Byrne Cllr. M. Ryan

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS 5369

Housing

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain referred to a letter which had been circulated to each Member regarding a housing application and requested that the case be examined urgently and reported at the next meeting of the Council.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 15 - DEVELOPMENT PLAN - CLLRS. J. BRENNAN, M. MULLINS, J. CALLANAN, M. 5370

FINNERTY & P. O'SULLIVAN

The following written reply was given to the above Councillors:-

"This Notice of Motion will be dealt with in the context of a discussion on the review of the Planning Control Policy."

N.O.M. NO. 16 - DEVELOPMENT PLAN - CLLRS. J. BRENNAN, M. MULLINS, J. CALLANAN, M. FINNERTY & P. O'SULLIVAN 5371

The following written reply was given to the above Councillors:-

This Notice of Motion will be dealt with in the context of a discussion on the review of the Planning Control Policy."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 5372

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"Our area engineer met with the chairman of the Residents Association at the end of last year and explained the position to him. A temporary surface was laid on the road following restoration work to allow time for the piping to settle. A tarmac surface would reduce the height of the kerbs. It is planned to lay a ralumac surface next month. There are no funds available this year to erect public lighting on the estate. If the Association is interested in funding a community lighting programme the Council would be prepared to take such scheme in charge subject to the usual conditions."

N.O.M. NO. 18 - FLOODING PROBLEM - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 5373

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"The flooding at the Mart is caused by the operators of the Mart and they have informed us that they have instructed their engineer to investigate the matter. The matter of surface water on roads around Gort is being addressed as far as resources permit. The problem does not arise solely from the state of water outlets. After extreme heavy rain when land is water logged water cannot drain away especially from low points on the roads."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - LITTER CLEAN-UP - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 5374

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT

"Christmas fell at a weekend and was followed by a storm. Many of the County Council Personnel were busy dealing with the storm emergencies. The litter problem in Gort is aggravated by the fast food outlets. A Litter Warden has been appointed by Galway County Council and it is hoped that he will address the litter problems in the area."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - PLANNING - CLLR. M. FAHY

5375

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:

"With reference to the above I list hereunder the scale of development contributions pertaining at present:-

DWELLINGHOUSES

1. **Rural Areas** Where no public water or sewerage schemes are available NIL
 " " Where public water supply is available £500
 " " Where water and sewerage schemes are available £650
2. **SMALLER TOWNS AND VILLAGES**
 - (a) With water and sewerage £750
 - (b) With water only £600
3. **LARGE TOWNS (Portumna, Loughrea, Oughterard, Gort, Clifden & Athenry)**
 - (a) With water and sewerage £1,900
 - (b) With water only £950
4. **TUAM TOWN AND ENVIRONS**
 - (a) With water and sewerage £1,900
 - (b) With water only £950
5. **GALWAY CITY EAST AND WEST ENVIRONS**
 - (a) With water and sewerage £1,900
 - (b) With water only £950
6. **ORANMORE AND MOYCULLEN AREAS**
 Amount per house With water and sewerage £1,900

INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT

A decision as to whether to levy a charge will be made in each case on the merits. Where a charge is being made the following marked "A" will apply but does not prevent a specific charge being levied.

A		
1.	<u>Rural areas</u> where no public water supply or sewerage schemes are available	NIL
2.	<u>Rural areas</u> where public water supply is available Per Hectare	£2,500
3.	<u>Rural areas</u> where public water supply and sewerage are available Per Hectare	£5,000
4.	<u>Small Towns and Villages</u>	
	(a) With water and sewerage Per Hectare	£8,000
	(b) With water only Per Hectare	£6,000
5.	<u>Larger Towns</u>	
	(a) With water and sewerage Per Hectare	£14,000
	(b) With water only Per Hectare	£8,500
6.	<u>Tuam Town and Environs plus Galway City Environs</u>	
	(a) With water and sewerage Per Hectare	£16,000
	(b) With water only Per Hectare	£10,000

GROUP WATER SCHEMES

Amount per house detailed hereunder:-

Monthly Meeting - 01/03/1999

1. Rural Areas £300
The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-
2. Smaller Towns and Villages £350
There are no funds available at present to carry out this work. It would be a
3. Large Towns (Portumna, Loughrea, Gort, Clifden
Athenry & Oughterard) £550
pending if this became available. The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-
4. Tuam Town and Environs £550
There are no funds available at present to carry out this work. It would be a
5. Galway City East and West Environs £550
including Oranmore and Moycullen
pending if this became available. The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-

OPEN SPACE

- Per House £300
The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-
- Towns and Villages within Land Use Study Area - per house £1,000
The following contract for the N13 will be carried out in 1999. The contract will include

INTENSIFICATION OF USE

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-
Each case to be assessed individually

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-
In addition specific contributions may also be imposed as conditions of planning permissions where special works are required and/or in areas to which the Serviced Land Initiative applies."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - RIBBON DEVELOPMENT - CLLR. M. FAHY 5376

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-
The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-
This Notice of Motion will be dealt with in the context of a discussion on the review of the Planning Control Policy."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. FAHY 5377

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-
The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-
"The cost of line of sight improvement would be £2,940. The high cost is mostly due to the large volume of earth banks to be removed. The price is subject to the land being given free and concrete post and wire fencing being acceptable to the landowner once the relevant Notice of Motion funding is committed our engineer will approach the landowner."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - ROAD WIDENING - DEPUTY P. MCCORMACK 5378

The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-

"There are no funds available at present to carry out this work. It would be a suitable project on which to expend Notice of Motion funding if this became available. Permission would have to be obtained from the adjoining landowner to carry out the work."

N.O.M. NO. 24 - ROAD MARKINGS - DEPUTY P. MCCORMACK 5379

The following written reply was given to Deputy McCormack:-

"A lining contract for the N18 will be carried out in 1999. The contract will include new lines at all junctions on the route."

N.O.M. NO. 25 - SEWERAGE SCHEME - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 5380

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"The parameters of the sewerage scheme for Oranmore do not provide for the servicing of the Carrowmoneash area. This situation is now being examined by the Council and the Department of the Environment and Local Government."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - ROAD - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 5381

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This road would have to be brought up to the proper standard before it could be considered for taking in charge. This could probably be done under a Local Improvement Scheme if the landowners made an application. Enclosed herewith is relevant application form."

N.O.M. NO. 27 - TRAFFIC ROUTE LIGHTING - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 5382

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Turloughmore would not have high enough priority to be included in the 1999 programme for Traffic Route Lighting given the level of funding and other priorities."

N.O.M. NO. 28 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. P. MCHUGH 5383

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"A reply will be available for the next meeting."

N.O.M. NO. 29 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. P. 5384
MCHUGH

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"This road is not included for improvement under the five year roads 1998 - 2000. It is not possible therefore to include this road in the 1999 Roadworks Programme.

However, the Council's five year roads plan will be reviewed in a few months time and this road will be considered in this review."

N.O.M. NO. 30 - HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. P. 5385
MCHUGH

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

"The house in this case is built approximately 20 years. Some windows have already been replaced as have the front and back doors.

Works relating to the items referred to in this Notice of Motion are included in the works schedule of the local maintenance crew and it is expected that they will be carried out in the next six to seven weeks."

N.O.M. NO. 31 - TRA AN DOILIN - AN COMH. C. NI 5386
FHATHARTA

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

"Tä an Chomhairle ag dul ar aghaidh le cheannacht an talamh seo."

N.O.M. NO. 32 - DROICHEAD - AN COMH. C. NI 5387
FHATHARTA

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

"Déanfar iarracht an t-airgead a chur ar fáil don obair seo imbliana. Fuair muid deontas £50,000 le haghaidh an obair seo i 1998 agus tá an tairgead seo caite anois. Beidh muid ag cuir iarratas eile ag Roinn na Gaeltachta le haghaidh deontas breise chun an obair a críochnú.

N.O.M. NO. 33 - "RUMBLE STRIPS" - AN COMH. C. 5388
NI FHATHARTA

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

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

N.O.M. NO. 34 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 5389

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 35 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 5390

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"The estimated cost of improvement works is £30,000. This road is not included in the Council's five year roads plan 1998 - 2002. It is not possible therefore to include this road in the 1999 Roadworks Programme. However, the Council's five year plan will be reviewed within the next few months and this location will be considered at that stage".

N.O.M. NO. 36 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 5391

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 37 - SEWERAGE SCHEME - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 5392

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

"The Council are examining from a planning perspective the feasibility of providing a sewerage system in Barna Village."

N.O.M. NO. 38 - GHARRAI NA DOIBE - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 5393

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

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

N.O.M. NO. 39 - DROICHEAD - CLLR. S. O'NEACHTAIN 5394

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

"Beidh an Comhairle Condae ag cuir iarratas chuig Roinn na Gaeltachta go gairid ag lorg deontas breise le haghaidh an obair seo a chriochniú."

N.O.M. NO. 40 - ROAD RESURFACING - CLLR. M. REGAN 5395
REGAN

The following written reply was given to Councillor Regan:-

"This road will be included for surface dressing in the 1999 Roadworks Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 41 - ROAD - CLLR. M. REGAN 5396

The following written reply was given to Councillor Regan:-

"The Tarmon road will be included in the 1999 Road Works Programme. The boundary wall to Mr. Billy Fogarty's field will be included in the programme. It is not intended to carry out wall building on the other side of the road."

N.O.M. NO. 42 - FLOODING - CLLR. M. REGAN 5397

The following written reply was given to Councillor Regan:-

"This flooding problem is caused by the Mart operators and they have informed us that they have requested an engineer to investigate the matter."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed: _____

S. Brennan
Chairman

22nd March 1999
Date