

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT MERLIN PARK, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 24TH AUGUST, 1998

CATHAOIRLEACH:

An Comhairleoir J. Brennan

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

*Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D.
Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, E. Power, A/Co.
Secretary, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, R.C.
Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, L. Gavin,
S.E.E., E. Maloney, S.S.O. & E. Hourigan,
A/S.O.*

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

OMAGH TRAGEDY

5054

The Members expressed their sincere condolences with the people of Omagh on the recent tragedy in the Town. On the proposal of Councillor Gavin, seconded by Councillor McClearn, the Members agreed to adjourn the Council Meeting for fifteen minutes as a mark of respect to the people that were tragically killed in Omagh.

The Manager on behalf of the Staff and on his own behalf wished to be associated with the sentiments expressed.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

5055

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with:-

Mr. John Colleran, County Engineer on the death of his brother.

Mr. Sean Nolan, Revenue Collector on the death of his brother.

Mr. A. Marmion, Town Clerk, Loughrea, Co. Galway on the death of his brother

Minister Noel Treacy, on the death of his Aunt, Ms. Margaret Maloney

Mrs. Attracta Burke, Hazelwood, Castlegar, Co. Galway

The Burke Family, Kells, Corofin, Co. Clare.

Mrs. Kathleen McMahon, Upper Newcastle, Galway on the death of her husband.

The Manager, on behalf of the Staff and on his own behalf wished to be associated with the Resolutions of Sympathy, in particular to Mrs. Kathleen McMahon, whose Husband Sean was a Senior Executive Engineer with Galway County Council.

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

5056

A Vote of Congratulations was passed to:

Galway Senior Football Team

Galway Senior & Junior Camogie Teams

The Members extended good wishes to the Galway Representatives who are taking part in the National Community Games.

The Manager on behalf of the Staff and on his own behalf wished to be associated with same.

MINUTES

5057

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 10th July, 1998 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Finnegan.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 20th July, 1998 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 20th July, 1998 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman, on the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor Ryan.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 - EXTENSION TO KILCONLY BURIAL GROUND 5058

A Report dated 7th August, 1998 regarding the proposed extension to Kilconly Burial Ground had been circulated to the Members. The Council agreed to the development on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Hussey.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 - EXTENSION TO MOYRUS BURIAL GROUND 5059

The Members had been circulated with Report dated 7th August, 1998 regarding the proposed extension to Moyrus Burial Ground in Carna. On the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, the Council agreed to the proposed development.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 - CONSTRUCTION OF SINGLE RURAL HOUSES WITH APPROPRIATE TREATMENT FACILITIES 5060

The Members had been circulated with Report dated 18th August, 1998 regarding the construction of single rural houses with appropriate treatment facilities at the following locations:

Kilbricken Ailwee, Rosmuc
Carraroe North, Carraroe
Dolan, Roundstone,

Ardmore, Carna
Derryinver, Letterfrack
Derrigimlagh, Ballyconneely

The Council agreed to the development on the proposal of An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain.

Councillor Gavin welcomed the Council's proposed development. He requested a report indicating the number of applicants on the Council's Housing List and the length of time applicants are on the list.

It was agreed that this matter would be referred to the next meeting of the Housing Services Strategic Policy Committee.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT MAIN STREET, CREGGS 5061

On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Hussey, the Council approved the disposal of 0.0146 acres at Main Street, Creggs to Mr. Michael O'Rourke, Creggs, Co. Galway, in accordance with Notice dated 27th July, 1998 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT POOLBOY INDUSTRIAL ESTATE 5062

On the proposal of Councillor O'Sullivan, seconded by Deputy Connaughton, the Council approved the disposal of 0.432 hectares at Poolboy Industrial Estate, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway to Brendan G. Kelly and Michael S. Kelly, K.P.W. Business Forms Ltd., in accordance with Notice dated 31st July, 1998 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 - a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT COUNCIL OFFICES PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY 5063

On the proposal of Councillor Ryan, seconded by Deputy Connaughton, the Council approved the disposal of 0.00279 hectares at Council Offices, Prospect Hill, Galway to the E.S.B., Sean Mulvoy Road, Galway, in accordance with Notice dated 5th August, 1998, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST. MARY'S COLLEGIATE CHURCH, ATHENRY 5064

On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Loughnane, the Council approved the disposal of 0.0605 acres at St. Mary's Collegiate Church, Athenry, by way of lease, to the Athenry Community Council Trust Ltd. in accordance with Notice dated 11th August, 1998 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST. LAURENCE'S FIELDS LOUGHREA 5065

On the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor Fahy, the Council approved the disposal of 0.062 acres at St. Laurence's Fields, Loughrea to Mr. Patrick Egan, Dublin Road, Loughrea, in accordance with Notice dated 11th August, 1998, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

5066

The Chairman welcomed Mr. P.J. Rudden, Mr. Larry O'Toole of M.C. O'Sullivan & Co. Ltd., Consulting Engineers and Mary Murphy, Public Relations Officer to the Meeting. He stated that it is vitally important that the public are fully informed on the Waste Management Programme for the City and County, and that a balanced debate is held on this issue.

Mr. P.J. Rudden informed the Members that Galway County Council and Galway Corporation commissioned M.C. O'Sullivan & Co. Ltd., and COWI Copenhagen to conduct a Waste Management Strategy Study for Galway City and County. The Strategy will have regard to all non-hazardous wastes generated within the functional areas of Galway Corporation and Galway County Council. The overall objective is to advise on the future waste management policy for the next twenty years in accordance with up-to-date Irish and E.U. legislation.

A copy of the Inception Report and Interim Progress Report had been circulated to the Members. Mr. Rudden outlined a brief summary of its contents and recommendations. The Study has adopted the following planning horizons:-

- Short Term Strategy 1998-1999
- Medium Term Strategy 1999-2004
- Long Term Strategy 2004-2014

A two strand strategy approach is currently being followed:-

- Diversion from landfill to recycling or thermal treatment
- Implementation of short term options to deal with the current crisis situation.

At present, most of the waste in Galway is disposed at landfill sites at Carrowbrowne, Tuam and Ballinasloe. The future for Waste Management is to remove a dependence on landfill sites and implement short-term options to deal with the current waste crisis.

The National and EU Recycling/Recovery targets are set-out hereunder:-

- National - 20% of municipal waste by 1999
- EU Packaging Directive
 - Specified recycling targets for glass, paper, plastics, aluminium and steel packaging by 2001
- EU Draft Landfill Directive
 - Specified diversion targets from landfill for biodegradable waste over the next 15 years

A two strand approach is being undertaken, namely Waste Minimisation and Waste Recycling and Recovery. The following are amongst the waste minimisation recommendations:-

- Assessment of cleaner technology at industrial level*
- Restrictions on landfills over next few months*
- Employment of Environmental Education Officers.*

In regard to waste recycling and recovery, a number of integrated scenarios are being assessed to determine the Best Practicable Environmental Option for Galway waste. The scenarios being studied are as follows:-

- Scenario 1 - obligatory recycling, thermal treatment and landfill of residuals*
- Scenario 2 - Maximum realistic recycling and landfill of residuals*
- Scenario 3 - Maximum realistic recycling, thermal treatment and landfill of residuals*

The scenarios outlined will be examined and modelled and the consequences for the waste stream and cost implications will be identified by the Consultants. With regard to recycling, this will be maximised by targeting priority waste streams such as construction and demolition waste, organic waste and packaging. A new community based recycling and composting scheme for the Aran Islands has been approved. This scheme is being grant-aided by the Department of the Environment & Local Government, Udarás na Gaeltachta, Roinn na Gaeltachta and Galway County Council. In order to meet the balance of funds required to operate the scheme, it is proposed to introduce an Environmental levy of £1 on all tourists visiting the Island. The proposed recycling depot is the subject of planning permission. Following the setting up of the new project, Kilonan landfill will close.

Proposals for new or enhanced waste recycling schemes for Galway City and Ballinasloe are being prepared in co-operation with Rehab Recycling Partnership, which will later be extended to other towns in the County. Advertisements have also been placed in the EU Journal for the Procurement of Transfer/Recycling Centres in Galway City.

It is proposed to close Tuam Landfill Site in September, 1998. It is recommended that new Waste Recycling Centres be established in Galway City, Ballinasloe, Athenry, Clifden and Tuam. Following the closure of Tuam Landfill Site, a new recycling centre and civic amenity site will be developed.

Mr. Rudden stated that the situation regarding Carrowbrowne Landfill is critical. An Bord Pleanala have placed strict restrictions on Galway County Council and Galway Corporation insofar as the landfill at Carrowbrowne will cease to operate from April 1999, or on reaching 150,000 tonnes of waste, whichever is the earlier. Based on current returns, approx. 12 weeks disposal capacity exists. The Local Authority has a legal responsibility in respect of domestic waste only. Accordingly, the collection of Commercial and Business waste will cease.

A licence application for the Ballinasloe Landfill Site has been submitted to the EPA. The licence application restricts the quantity of waste to be deposited to 40,000 tonnes per annum. In 1998, it is estimated that 25,473 tonnes of waste will be deposited in Ballinasloe, therefore 14,527 tonnes is the maximum waste acceptable from either Carrowbrowne/Tuam landfills under current operating conditions.

The Interim Report recommends that both Local Authorities increase the charges at Carrowbrowne and Ballinasloe landfill sites to £25 per tonne, effective immediately. These increased charges will provide a disincentive to private operators collecting waste outside Galway bringing waste to Galway and will provide the necessary capital to carry out the improvements needed at both landfill sites, and thus complying with the Polluter Pays Principle.

Mr. Rudden stated that existing landfills of Carrowbrowne, Tuam and Ballinasloe were examined with a view to servicing the short-term needs of the County. The survey revealed that Ballinasloe is the most suitable site for short-term expansion for the following reasons:-

- has suitable Hydrogeology
- has the space within existing boundary
- needs improved road access
- opportunity to leave upgraded landscape behind.

Details of the proposed Ballinasloe Landfill Plan and costs were outlined as included in Interim Report circulated to the Members. The costs associated with same are indicated hereunder:-

BALLINASLOE LANDFILL

• Remediation of Existing Site	£0.49m
• General Infrastructure	£0.91m
• Road access/upgrading	£1.50m
• Cell Development	£1.91m
• Restoration/capping	£1.66m
• Operational Costs (over 7 years)	£3.50m
• Aftercare (over 50 years)	£0.75m
TOTAL	£10.72m

The long-term strategy of the Waste Management Strategy Study is to identify suitable location(s) for a new central landfill. The study is being carried out having regard to the County Development Plan, EU Proximity Principle, the EU Draft Landfill Directive and the EPA Draft Manual on Site Selection (1996). The process follows a sieving procedure whereby exclusionary areas such as airports, proposed N.H.A.'s etc., are excluded. A map indicating the areas suitable was circulated to the Members. Further surveys are being conducted in order to identify potentially suitable sites for selection later in 1998. The location of the site must be accessible to

either road or rail network. Mr. Rudden stated that the transportation of waste by rail is unlikely due to economic reasons.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Rudden for his presentation and the detailed Waste Management Strategy Study Reports which were issued to the Members.

Councillor Callanan thanked the Council for the opportunity to visit landfill sites in England. Councillor Callanan stated that landfills/dumps should be located in rural areas and far away from people's residences. He objected to the proposed plans for Ballinasloe on economic grounds stating that people wish to see public monies spent correctly. Councillor Callanan stated that should a suitable site for landfill be identified, he would give his support to same.

Deputy Connaughton stated that charges for the disposal of waste will increase approx. 300% over next few months, which will come as a great shock to domestic users. He expressed surprise that the collection of commercial and business waste will cease to be collected and queried what people will do with this waste. Deputy Connaughton stated that the location of new central landfill site may not be determined until 1999. He requested that a commitment be given to the people of Ballinasloe, by Galway County Council and Galway Corporation that the disposal of waste in Ballinasloe landfill site will cease in 2005. However, he noted that this cannot be given unless a site is being purchased and a legal agreement signed. Deputy Connaughton asked that legal advice be sought in relation to Carrowbrowne to determine whether its use can be extended until alternative arrangements are in place.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain stated that it is important to have liaison between both Local Authorities, i.e. Galway Corporation and Galway County Council. He welcomed the new initiatives for Inishmore, stating that the Island with its special amenity status will be an example for the rest of the country. He queried whether consideration has been given to improving roads infrastructure in areas around landfill site.

Councillor O'Sullivan agreed with sentiments expressed by Councillor Callanan and Deputy Connaughton. He stated that it is unfair to expect people of Ballinasloe to support an upgraded landfill site when no other sites have been identified.

Councillor McHugh stated that there is an onus on Officials and Members to solve this problem. He stated that he could not agree to locate a landfill site in urban/residential areas. It is more in keeping with the proper planning of the area to segregate the landfill from urban areas. Councillor McHugh stated that two of the proposed sites for transfer stations in Tuam are beside residential areas and wished to have his opposition to same recorded in the Minutes.

Councillor Hussey stated that it would help the Members if the site for central landfill is identified. Councillor Hussey said that every effort should be made to ensure that Carrowbrowne remains open for another two years.

Councillor Regan proposed that the Consultants come back to the Council with the proposed location of the new Central Landfill Site. Councillor Callanan seconded this proposal.

Councillor Ryan queried as to why Ballinasloe was the most suitable site.

Mr. Rudden replied to queries raised. He said there are three landfill sites in Galway. Based on current projections, Ballinasloe is the site with capacity to accept waste to year 2005. The landfill in Ballinasloe is adjacent to the forest, close to town, and as an existing site is working well. The costs of upgrading the site in line with EPA requirements will be in the region of £11m. In the medium term, the answers to Galway's waste problem is not a new landfill but to improve existing site at Ballinasloe. Mr. Rudden stated that according to the Department of the Environment, the Minister is to announce that existing landfill sites should be extended in preference to new sites.

In regard to Carrowbrowne Landfill, Mr. Rudden stated that there is a legal limit of 150,000 tonnes, and no guarantee that disposal of waste at this location will be permitted after 1st April, 1999. Remediation of this site must also be carried out. The EPA have stated that this site is unsuitable for various reasons, i.e. adjacent to water source. Mr. Rudden also confirmed that if an alternative site was selected today, it would not be operational by 1st April next. Mr. Rudden outlined briefly proposals for Ballinasloe landfill, and confirmed that roads infrastructure to and from site will be improved.

Mr. Rudden also confirmed that Commercial Operators are aware of the proposed waste restrictions and are making alternative arrangements.

In response to queries Mr. Rudden confirmed that Ballinasloe Urban District Council is the owner and occupier of the landfill site. The estimated costs of operating the upgraded site is approximately £500,000 per annum for seven years. The cost of remediation of the present site used by Ballinasloe UDC would be reflected in the cost of waste disposal of £62 per tonne as opposed to £13 per tonne if Galway County Council and Corporation availed of the site.

Mr. O'Donoghue, County Manager said that the document before the Members deals with the Short, Medium and Long term strategies for the County. Included in the document are important issues such as recycling, Bring Sites and the Appointment of Environmental Education Officers. The study was conducted in a strategic and professional manner. He stated that the process in acquiring a new landfill may take 5-6 years, taking into consideration the Planning Process, EPA Licensing, C.P.O. etc. In the interim, Ballinasloe Landfill Site is a suitable medium term solution. A well developed and maintained landfill is important to the infrastructure of the town. The revenue which Ballinasloe UDC would receive from the City and County would be of substantial benefit for the future development of the Town.

Mr. O'Donoghue indicated that the Consultants would proceed with selection of Central Landfill Site as quickly as possible.

Councillor Hussey proposed the adoption of the Waste Management Report subject to the approval of Ballinasloe Urban District Council in relation to the Poolboy Landfill Site. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain seconded this proposal.

Deputy Connaughton stated that he wanted the Council and the Corporation to have identified the location for the new Central Landfill Site or at least have arranged for the purchase of same before a decision is made in relation to the upgrading of Ballinasloe Landfill Site.

Councillor Callanan proposed that the proposals in relation to Waste Recycling be proceeded with, and that the proposals regarding Ballinasloe Landfill Site be rejected. Councillor O'Sullivan seconded this proposal.

Councillor McHugh stated that he was opposed to two of the sites proposed as Transfer Stations for Tuam. Councillor Hussey requested that consultation with the public take place prior to agreeing locations.

Mr. Rudden confirmed that consultation would take place with the public regarding the location of Transfer Sites and their convenience to roads etc. He stated that the closure of Tuam Landfill will be advertised in the coming weeks.

Councillor W. Burke proposed an amendment to Councillor Hussey's proposal, in that the Waste Management Report be adopted with the exception of Section 2(10) relating to Ballinasloe Landfill. Councillor McHugh seconded this proposal.

A vote was taken on Councillor W. Burke's amendment which resulted as follows:-

ARSON: Cllrs. J. Brennan, W. Burke, Deputy P. Connaughton, & Cllr. M. Ryan (4)

IN AGHAIDH: Cllrs. J. Callanan, T. Hussey, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, M. Regan & E. Varley. (9)

The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

The Members voted on Councillor Hussey's proposal to adopt the Waste Management Report as presented, save for the proposals outlined in regard to the Ballinasloe UDC Landfill Site at Poolboy. The vote resulted as follows:-

ARSON: Cllrs. J. Brennan, T. Hussey, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. M. Ryan, & E. Varley. (7)

IN AGHAIDH: Cllrs. W. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. P. McHugh, P. O'Sullivan & M. Regan. (6)

The Chairman declared Councillor Hussey's proposal carried.

NOMINATIONS TO BORD NA GAEILGE SEMINAR 5067
2/4 OCTOBER, 1998

The Members agreed to defer this item to the next Meeting.

ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WITH GALWAY CORPORATION 5068

The Members had been circulated with correspondence from Galway Corporation dated 2nd July, 1998 regarding the establishment of a joint Planning & Environment Committee to discuss issues of common concern.

The Members agreed to defer this item to the next Meeting.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS 5069

Non-National Roads

Mr. E. Power, Acting County Secretary informed the Members of increased allocations under the EU Co-financed Schemes listed hereunder. Letter dated 14th August, 1998 from the Department of the Environment and Local Government refers.

Scheme	Initial Alloc £'000	Additional Alloc £'000	Revised Total Alloc £'000	Additional Road Length (metres)
R340 Screb/ Carna/Recess	200,000	140,000	340,000	2,000
R341 Roundstone/ Canal Stage	150,000	70,000	220,000	1,000
R345 Cloughbrack Road	100,000	100,000	200,000	

The Members noted and welcomed increased allocations.

Appointment Of Irish Officer/Oifigeach Gaelge

Mr. E. Power, Acting County Secretary informed the Members that the Council had advertised recently for an Irish Officer/Oifigeach Gaelge.

Group Water Schemes

Re: Notification to Councillors of approvals of Group Water Schemes

The Acting County Secretary said that it is proposed that when a Group Scheme has been formally approved, and a letter is to issue to the Trustees, the Councillors in the relevant Electoral Area will be notified simultaneously.

The Members agreed to proposed notification procedure.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

5070

N6 - Galway-Dublin Road

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain proposed that a letter be sent to the N.R.A. strongly objecting to the delays on the Galway-Dublin National Primary Road, particularly at Kimegad. He stated that the N.R.A. should invest in the improvement of the N6 to the West. Councillor McClearn seconded this proposal.

Livestock Trade

Councillor Fahy stated that small rural farmers will be in financial trouble due to low prices for livestock. He proposed that a letter be sent to the Minister for Agriculture, Mr. J. Walsh, requesting him to seek new live export markets and a higher beef intervention price from the E.U. Councillor Callanan seconded this proposal.

Re: Application No. 97/1364

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain requested the Council to examine planning permission granted to Udaras na Gaeltachta for a Media Park and Site Development Works. He requested that a meeting between Council and Udaras officials be held to discuss the manner of effluent disposal.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

**N.O.M. NO. 15 - "REFLECTOR BARRIER" - AN COMH 5071
C. NI FHATHARTA**

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

"Tá dromcla nua curtha ar an mbóthar seo. Cuirfear linti buí ar thaobh an bhóthair chun sábháilteacht a fheabhsú."

**N.O.M. NO. 16 - FOOTPATHS - AN COMH. S.
O'NEACHTAIN**

5072

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

"No provision has been made in the 1998 Roadworks Programme for the repair of footpaths at this location. However, an application for funding will be made to the Department of Arts Heritage Gaeltacht and the Islands in the next few days."

N.O.M. NO. 17 - ROAD - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 5073

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"Part of this road is not in charge of the Council. There are no funds available for road improvement on the section which is in charge. It could be considered for the Community Involvement in Roadworks Scheme if the local community wished to make an application when the 1999 scheme is advertised in September. It would also be a suitable project on which to expend Notice of Motion funds."

N.O.M. NO. 18 - LITTER WARDEN - CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 5074

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"Galway County Council propose to recruit a Traffic/Litter Warden for Loughrea and Environs. It is intended that Gort will be included within the area of operation of the Traffic/Litter Warden."

N.O.M. NO. 19 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLRS. M. FAHY, M. CUNNINGHAM & T. BYRNE 5075

The following written reply was given to Councillors Fahy, Cunningham & Byrne:-

"When the five year roads plan is being reviewed towards the end of this year the position with respect to the Tubber road will be reviewed."

There is provision in the current public lighting programme for two lights on the Tubber Road/Church Street."

N.O.M. NO. 20 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. FAHY 5076

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"These are mainly regional roads and it is accepted that they are in need of realignment. However, it is not expected that funds, other than for surface restoration, will be available in the foreseeable future."

N.O.M. NO. 21 - KILTARTAN CEMETERY - CLLR. M. FAHY 5077

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"This matter was recently advertised in the Press under Part X of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 1994 and will come before the Council for consideration in due course."

N.O.M. NO. 22 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 5078

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

"Routine maintenance will be carried out at this location."

N.O.M. NO. 23 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 5079

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 24 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. P. FINNEGAN 5080

The following written reply was given to Councillor Finnegan:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 25 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 5081

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"This road is in good condition. The looped section was recently surface dressed. The few isolated pot holes on the straight section of the road leading to Sullivan's house will be repaired in the course of routine road maintenance."

A considerable amount of verge trimming was carried out in the Oughterard engineering area in the earlier part of the year and the verge trimming budget for 1998 is expended."

N.O.M. NO. 26 - VERGE TRIMMING - CLLR. S. GAVIN 5082

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"Verge trimming is ongoing at present in the areas referred to and will be continued as far as funds allow."

N.O.M. NO. 27 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. S. GAVIN 5083

The following written reply was given to Councillor Gavin:-

"These roads will be repaired as part of routine road maintenance work."

N.O.M. 28 - PLANNING - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 5084

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"The objective of the current County Development Plan which was adopted in 1997 is to make provision, in the interests of the common good, for the proper planning and development of the area. Chapter 7.2 deals with various development control objectives and the lifting of the restrictions would involve a variation to the County Development Plan in accordance with S20 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963 as amended by the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1976."

N.O.M. NO. 29 - WATER/SEWERAGE - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 5085

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"Proposals are with the Department of the Environment to extend the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme - Stage 2 network to serve the town of Athenry. This proposal is being examined by the Department of the Environment at the present time. I am also to advise that the Council has submitted proposals to the Department of the Environment under the Serviced Land Initiative for the extension of the water and sewerage infrastructure in Athenry."

N.O.M. NO. 30 - TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS - CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 5086

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"The requirements of Article 36 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 1994 are being complied with by the County Council and all submissions received in relation to planning applications are available for public inspection with the relevant files as is required by the Planning Regulations."

N.O.M. NO. 31 - ROAD REPAIRS - SEN. J. MCDONAGH 5087

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This matter will be investigated and a reply will be available for the next meeting."

N.O.M. NO. 32 - SIGNS - SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 5088

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"Signage and delineation has been improved at this junction in recent years. Extra warning signs will be erected as soon as possible."

N.O.M. NO. 33 - ROAD WORKS - SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 5089

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"This matter will continue to be pursued."

N.O.M. 34 - GHRÚPSCÉIM UISCE INBHIR ROSMUC - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 5090

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

"Scrúdóidh an Chomhairle moltaí do ghrúpscéim uisce ag Inbhir, Rosmuc ar chionníoll go gcuirfidh na hiontaobhaithe an doiciméadú riachtanach faoi bhráid an Rannóg Seirbhíse Uisce. Cuirfear cionnroinnt uisce do scéim mholta ar fáil ó scéim sholáthair uisce phoiblí Dhoire Rois (Derryrush)."

N.O.M. NO. 35 - BOTHER - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 5091

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

"Níl an bhóthar seo faoi chúram an Chomhairle Chontae."

N.O.M. NO. 36 - SOLAS POIBLI - AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 5092

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

"Níl an áit seo ar Clár na Soilsi Poiblí don bhliain 1998. Cuirfear san áireamh é nuair atá an chlár 1999 á ullmhú ach braithnídh sé ar an méid airgead a bheidh ann agus tosaíochtaí eile ag an am."

N.O.M. NO. 37 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 5093

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"Routine maintenance work was recently carried out on this road."

N.O.M. NO. 38 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 5094

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"It is hoped to carry out routine maintenance work on this road shortly."

N.O.M. NO. 39 - PIER AT INVER - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 5095

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"The estimated cost of carrying out repairs at above pier is £20,000 and an application for funding will be submitted to Department of Arts Heritage Gaeltacht and the Islands as soon as possible."

**N.O.M. NO. 40 - GRUP SCÉIM UISCE - AN COMH. S. 5096
O'NEACHTAIN**

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

"Scrúdóidh an Chomhairle moltaí do ghrúpscéim uisce ag Inbhir, Rosmuc ar chionnioll go gcuirfidh na hiontaobhaithe an doiciméadú riachtanach faoi bhráid an Rannóg Seirbhíse Uisce. Cuirfear cionnroinnt uisce do scéim mholta ar fáil ó scéim sholáthair uisce phoiblí Dhoire Rois (Derryrush)."

**N.O.M. NO. 41 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. S. 5097
O'NEACHTAIN**

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

"Tá caoi curtha ar na píosaí a dhéanamh damáiste ortha nuair a bhí obair á dhéanamh ar an scéim uisce. Nil aon airgead ar fáil faoi láthair chun níos mó oibre a dhéanamh."

N.O.M. NO. 42 - BOTHAR - AN COMH. S. O'NEACHTAIN 5098

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

"Tá dualgas ar na séilbheorí talún na crainn agus na sceachana a ghearradh. Tá an méid airgid atá ar fáil chun imill na mbóithre a ghlannadh teoranta. Déanfar an méid obair ghlannacháin is féidir leis an t-airgead atá ar fáil."

N.O.M. NO. 43 - ROAD REPAIRS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 5099

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

"This road is not included for improvement in the 1998 Roadworks Programme. Potholes will be repaired as soon as possible.

There are limited funds available to carry out verge trimming and priority has to be given to major routes. It will not be possible therefore to carry out verge trimming at the location referred to".

N.O.M. NO. 44 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 5100

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

"Realignment works were carried out in this area a few years ago in co-operation with local residents and this is considered satisfactory. If funds did become available they would have to be expended on other works in the village which would have higher priority than the road facing the premises referred to."

N.O.M. NO. 45 - AHASCRAUGH BRIDGE - CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 5101

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

"It is proposed to include a sum of money in the 1999 Road Works Programme for upgrading of the pavement over Ahascragh Bridge."

N.O.M. NO. 46 - LIGHTS - CLLR. E. VARLEY 5102

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"This matter will be taken up with the E.S.B."

N.O.M. NO. 47 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. E. VARLEY 5103

The following written reply was given to Councillor Varley:-

"When the Community Involvement in Roadworks Scheme is advertised next month, the local community will be welcome to apply".

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

or Brehnan
Chairman

28th September 1998
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNCIL OFFICES,
TUAM ROAD, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 14TH AUGUST,
1998**

Cathairleach:-

Councillor J. Brennan

Cllrs. J. Burke, W. Burke, T. Byrne, J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, T. Hussey, M. Loughnane, J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Deputy P. McCormack, Cllrs. P. McHugh, M. Mullins, M. O'Neill, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, M. Ryan, E. Varley & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, Assistant Co. Manager, E. Power, A/Co. Secretary, D. Barrett, A.O., P. Carroll, S.S.O., T. Connell & J. Eising.

Thosnaigh an crinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

5032

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with:-

Mrs. Mary Healy & Family, Rahealy, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
The Connolly Family, Gortaboy, Kinvara, Co. Galway
Mrs. Margaret O'Flaherty & Family, Hawkhill, Gort, Co. Galway
Mr. Mairtin Ó Cathain, Glynsk, Cashel, Co. Galway.

RETIREMENT

5033

Members expressed Best Wishes to Mr. Tom O'Connor and Patrick Lally on their retirement from the Fire Service in Gort.

CONGRATULATIONS

5034

The Members congratulated Brian Kerr on the recent success of the Irish Under 16 & 18 Teams and the Galway Hurling Team on their commitment to the sport.

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

5035

The members had been circulated with a report dated 29th July, 1998 regarding the improvement to the sludge process at Lough Boliska. The Council agreed to the development on the proposal of Cllr Mannion and seconded by Cllr. Ryan.

REPORT OF SPC SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

5036

The Report of the SPC Sub-Committee meeting held on the 28th July, 1998 had been circulated for consideration. Cllr. O'Sullivan stated that the Arts Committee should have had a representative on the Cultural, Corporate and General Services SPC. Cllr. Gavin stated that the Islands Committee should not be disbanded as it had been a very useful forum. The County Manager stated that the Island representatives could form an Island Liaison Group which would meet the Area Committees a few times a year. He stated that officials would be present at these meetings. Cllr. Gavin felt that these meetings would not be as effective as the former Islands Committee Meetings.

The report of the SPC Sub-Committee meeting was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Hussey seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS TO THE SPC'S

5037

The members had been circulated with report dated 11th August, 1998 regarding nominations by external sectors to the SPC's.

The Council noted the nominations set out hereunder on the proposal of Cllr. Mannion and seconded by Cllr. Ryan:-

SPC - CULTURAL, CORPORATE AND GENERAL SERVICES

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. | Trade Unions | - | Liz Walsh, 65 Rockfield Park,
Rahoon, Galway |
| 2. | Sports & Recreational Bodies - | | Frank Burke, Moyleen,
Loughrea, Co. Galway |
| 3. | Arts/Heritage/Irish Language Groups - | | Triona Ní Rainne, Cilleola,
Ros Chathail, Co. na Gaillimhe |

SPC - HOUSING SERVICES

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 4. | L.A. Residents Assoc/Voluntary Housing - Organisations | Conor Gavin, Sion Hill, Dunmore, Co. Galway |
| 5. | Travellers Organisations | Martin Ward, Centre for Education & Development, Church View, Tuam |
| 6. | Disabled/Disadvantaged Sectors | Caithriona Ní Charra, South Galway MABS |

SPC - ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY SERVICES

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 7. | Environment/Conservation Groups/
Group Water Schemes | Michael Moran, Galway
Federation of Group Water Schemes |
| 8. | Community Organisations | 1. Ray O'Donoghue, Oranmore
Comm. Development Assoc.
2. Barbara Walsh, Moycullen
Community Development Assoc |
| 9. | Tidy Towns Assoc/Local Dev. Groups | Martin Ward, Glinsk
Community Dev. Society |

SPC - ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|
| 10. | Agriculture/Farming Organisations | John Mannion, Chairman of Galway IFA, Monivea |
| 11. | Construction Industry | Justin Mitchell, Director,
Thomas Mitchell & Sons,
Kilconnell, Ballinasloe |
| 12. | Business/Commercial | 1. Richard O'Driscoll, High Street, Tuam, Co. Galway
2. Colm Croffy, Ballinasloe Chamber of Commerce |

SPC - PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| 13. | Planning Consultants/Engineers/
Architects/Agents | Bryan Egan, Engineers & Architects Small Practice Group |
| 14. | Gaeltacht/Islands Organisations | Bridín Ní Chonceanainn,
Inis Meáin |

15. County Tourism

Mary Bennett, c/o Treasure
Chest, Shop Street, Galway

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 5038

The Members had been circulated with Report dated 31st July, 1998 regarding the construction of seven houses at Portumna, Co. Galway, comprising 1 x 5 bedroom house, 4 x 3 bedroom houses and 2 x 2 bedroom houses.

The Council agreed to the development on the proposal of Cllr. Regan and seconded by Cllr. Fahy.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 5039

The Members had been circulated with Report dated 15th July, 1998 regarding the construction of single rural houses with appropriate treatment facilities at the following locations:

Brackloon, Killoran, Ballinasloe	Springfield, Killoran
Ardskeamore, Corofin	Liss, Abbeyknockmoy
Knockroe, Dunmore	Tooloobaun, Killtullagh
Gortdrishagh, Oughterard	Pollnaclogha, Moycullen
Cloonoon, Rossmore, Woodford	Normansgrove, Kinvara
Ardrahan South, Ardrahan	Onaght, Inishmore, Aran Islands
Kilmurvy, Inishmore, Aran Islands	Kilmurvy, Inishmore, Aran Islands

The Council agreed to the development on the proposal of Cllr. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. Quinn.

DISPOSAL OF SITE AT ARD AOIBHINN, ATHENRY. 5040

On the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Fahy, the Council approved the disposal of Site No. 19, Ard Aoibhinn, Athenry, area of plot 0.12 acres, to Maria O'Sullivan, 193, Ragoon Park, Galway, in accordance with notice dated 14th July, 1998, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 and Section 88 of the Housing Act 1966, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

DISPOSAL OF BUILDING AT ROUNDSTONE

5041

On the proposal of Cllr. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Conneely, the Council approved the sale of 0.4 acres at Roundstone, Co. Galway to Mrs. B. Conneely, Roundstone, County Galway in accordance with Notice dated 20th July, 1998 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946 - a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

ADOPTION OF CONTROL OF HORSES BYE-LAWS

5042

A copy of the revised Draft Control of Horses Bye-Laws for County Galway together with reports dated 7th August and 14th August, 1998 were circulated to each Member.

The Acting County Secretary informed the Members of the proposed amendments to the Draft Bye-Laws and confirmed that the definition of landowner had been amended to include persons with a leasehold interest of not less than three years.

Cllr. O'Sullivan queried whether the Draft Bye Laws apply only to owners of horses who were not kept under control and would not apply to owners of horses which were kept under control.

Mr. D. Barrett A.O. stated that the purpose of the Bye-Laws was to keep horses under effective control and that owners of horses who do not need a licence are not required to have a certificate to that effect. He stated that if the Draft Bye-Laws were adopted by the Members notice of adoption would be published. He also stated that copies of Bye-Laws would be available for inspection and copies may be obtained on request.

Cllr. O'Sullivan stated that he was not in favour of the Draft Bye-Laws and was against their adoption. On the proposal of Cllr. Mannion seconded by Cllr. Cunningham it was resolved that Galway County Council in accordance with Section 17 of the Control of Horses Act, 1996 hereby adopt the Control of Horses Bye Laws for the County of Galway and that the Control of Horses Bye Laws shall come into effect on the 1st October, 1998.

REVISED PAY FOR CRAFT WORKERS

5043

On the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Ryan the Council approved the revised pay rates for Craft workers, details of which had been circulated to Members.

**HOUSING (TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION)
ACT 1998**

5044

A report dated 7th August, 1998 on the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 had been circulated to Members.

The Acting County Secretary stated that the Act provides for the preparation and adoption of a Five Year Traveller Accommodation Programme. This programme will involve public consultation and assessment of accommodation needs and formal adoption of the Plan by the Elected Members of the Housing Authority. The Act also provides for the establishment of the National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee on a statutory basis. The committee's role will be to advise the Minister on general aspects of Traveller accommodation.

There is provision in the Act for the establishment of a Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee to facilitate consultation with Travellers about the preparation and implementation of Traveller Accommodation Programmes. The Minister may give directions in relation to the composition of the committee, period of appointment, terms of reference and services and support to be provided by Housing Authorities to these committees is awaited.

Deputy McCormack welcomed the report and queried whether there would be traveller representation on the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee and whether the Council could make recommendation to the Minister that Travellers be represented on the Committee. He also questioned the powers of the Council under the Act in relation to temporary dwellings.

Cllr. Loughnane questioned the need for this Committee in light of the setting up of the Housing Services SPC and queried the position of Members in light of this proposal.

Cllr. Gavin stated that it was evident that other counties were not doing their share in the accommodation of Travellers while Galway had performed extraordinarily well in this area.

Cllr. O'Sullivan stated that a Traveller Committee had just been disbanded and that the Council were been told to re-form one. He proposed that the Council write to the Minister informing him that SPC's had been set up and that there was no need for another Committee while there was traveller representation on the Housing Services SPC. Cllr. J. Burke seconded Cllr. O'Sullivan's proposal and suggested that the Minister should be written to stating that any person in possession of a caravan should require a licence which would indicate their destination. He stated that there was a need to stop intimidation of communities where convoys of caravans arrived in their area.

Cllr. W. Burke stated that the proposed Committee was undermining the Housing Services SPC and questioned whether there would now be a whole plethora of committees.

The County Manager stated that the Council has a very good record in traveller accommodation. He stated that legislation requires the setting up of a Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee and the Minister has to issue directions regarding the composition of this committee. He stated that the establishment of the

Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee would be placed on the Agenda for a future Council meeting for consideration.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1998

5045

A Report dated 10th August, 1998 on the Local Government Act 1998 had been circulated to Members.

The Acting County Secretary stated that the Act provides for a new system of funding for Local Authorities and establishes the Local Government Fund to be financed from the proceeds of Motor Taxation and an Exchequer contribution. He stated that the Act also provides for the Local Elections in 1999 and provides for changes in the recruitment of certain Professional Officers.

The County Manager stated that the most important part of the legislation is the new funding system for Local Authorities. He also confirmed that the Act provides for the recruitment of certain staff by the Local Authority once the Commencement Order is made by the Minister.

The report on the Local Government Act 1998 was noted by the members.

ECO LABELLING PROJECT

5046

The Members noted the Progress Report of 7th August, 1998 on the ECO Labelling Project which had been circulated to Members.

NOMINATION OF COUNCILLORS TO THE ISLAND OF IRELAND CONFERENCE - WEST FLANDERS

5047

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Councillor Ryan, seconded by Councillor Hussey and agreed that the attendance of the following Members be approved at the Island of Ireland Conference in West Flanders - 26-30 September, 1998, the costs of the Conference having been circulated to each Member.

Cllr. J. Mannion

Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta

Cllr. P. O'Tuathail

NOMINATION TO LOCAL RURAL WATER MONITORING PROGRAMME

5048

On the proposal of Councillor Mannion, seconded by Councillor Hussey, the Council agreed that the following Members be nominated to the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee.

Cllr. M. Cunningham

Cllr. M. Ryan

Cllr. E. Varley

LOCAL AGENDA 21

5049

Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager advised that the Council is in the process of preparing a Local Agenda 21 Plan. The Council has engaged Dr. Richard Webb of CAAS Environmental Services to deliver Workshops at which Members would attend. It was agreed that the first Workshop would be held on 12th October, 1998 commencing at 10.30 a.m. It was also agreed that the October special meeting of the Council would be held on 12th October.

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

5050

It was agreed that the first Meetings of the Strategic Policy Committees would be held on the following dates:-

- Cultural, Corporate & General Services - 20th August, 1998 @ 10.00 a.m.
- Housing Services - 21st August, 1998 @ 11.00 a.m.
- Planning & Economic Development - 21st August, 1998 @ 12.00 noon
- Roads, Transportation & Safety - 21st August, 1998 @ 2.00 p.m.
- Community & Environmental Services - 24th August, 1998 @ 2.00 p.m.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

5051

Rural Water Programme

The County Manager advised of an additional allocation of £637,000 from the Department of the Environment and Local Governments under the Rural Water Programme.

Councillor Gavin stated that the maximum grant of £1,600 for households connecting to a Group Scheme was insufficient as there are many schemes with a small number of connections to them where the contributions per unit would be in excess of £4,000 - £5,000.

Deputy McCormack asked if the level of grant available for construction of new Group Schemes is the same as applied by the Department of the Environment prior to the devolution of responsibility for Group Schemes to Local Authorities. He asked whether the Council could give a grant over and above the limits set down for households on new schemes. He added that the Department should be requested to increase the grant to a more realistic figure taking into account the current costs of Group Water Schemes.

Councillor O'Sullivan referred to the list of 37 schemes for 1997 and asked if a new list of schemes had been prepared.

Mr. Nelson, Assistant County Manager stated that he had several meetings with the Galway Federation of Group Water Schemes, where the major concern expressed was

that the £1,600 grant was insufficient. He stated that a submission had been made to the Department in this regard, but the Council had no discretion in the level of the grant provided. He stated that of the £637,000 additional allocation, £250,000 would go towards Mid-Galway Group Water Scheme; £200,000 towards new group schemes and the balance towards small public schemes.

Referring to the list of schemes in 1997, he stated that some of the schemes on the list would not be proceeded with and a decision had been taken to advance those group schemes that were ready to go ahead. He stated that the Council will spend £1m this year in upgrading and taking schemes in charge.

Councillor W. Burke stated that Councillors should be informed of new schemes going to construction.

The County Manager informed the Members that the County Engineer, John Colleran has been appointed to the National Rural Water Monitoring Committee. The Members were also advised that the County Manager had been appointed to the National Traveller Consultative Committee. The Members congratulated the County Manager and County Engineer on their appointments.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

5052

Spiddal/Rossaveal Trunk Water Main

Deputy McCormack complimented the Council and Contractor for the quick and efficient works carried out on the Spiddal/Rossaveal Trunk Water Main and the way in which restoration work had been carried out. He queried whether Telecom lines were intended to be relocated underground as part of these works.

The County Manager confirmed that arrangements were in place to place the Telecom lines underground.

Clifden Town Plan

Councillor Mannion queried the position regarding the Clifden Town Plan. The County Manager advised that review of the Town Plan was being progressed by the Consultants.

Barna National School

Councillor Gavin stated that there was serious traffic congestion at Barna National School each school morning and requested that the Council consult with the School Authorities to see if a solution to the problem could be agreed upon.

Demountable Dwellings

Councillor Byrne stated that there were a number of unoccupied demountable dwellings lying idle in parts of the county and the landowners on whose land these are situated have expressed their concern regarding the potential for vandalism where they are left idle and vacant.

CONFERENCES

5053

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Cllr. J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor O'Sullivan and agreed that the attendance of the following members be approved at the conferences set out hereunder, an estimate of the cost per delegate for attendance at the conferences having been circulated to each Member.

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

Cllr. T. Walsh

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

J. Mannion
Chairman

28th Sept. '98
Date