

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL ON 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, 1999**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

- (a) An Comhairleoir K. Quinn  
(b) An Comhairleoir P. McHugh

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. T. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, S. Walsh & T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:**

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, F. Dawson, Director of Community & Enterprise, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, E. Power, P. Carroll, A.O's E. Maloney, B. McDermott, S.S.O's, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., & C. Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge

In the absence of an Cathaoirleach, Cllr. K. Quinn took the Chair.

***Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.***

**CONGRATULATIONS**

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The Members congratulated the Spiddal Football Team on winning the County Intermediate Title.

**RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY**

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The Members and Manager extended their sympathy to Declan Nelson, Assistant County Manager on the recent death of his Mother, and to Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. on the recent death of his Mother.

**MINUTES**

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*Minutes of Special Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.*

*Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor T. Mannion.*

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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*The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Cllr Mullins.*

*The Report of the Protocol Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Sen. McDonagh.*

*An Cathaoirleach Cllr. McHugh then took the chair.*

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

*Cllr. T. Mannion referred to the danger caused by deer crossing the road at Clonbrack to Caltra / Ahascragh and Kinvara to Ballinasloe Town and requested the County Secretary to contact Coillte asking Coillte to provide fencing along the road in question. He added that if this was not possible the deer population should be culled and the road signage improved as there were two to three accidents on the road weekly, which could lead to a fatality on the road.*

*Cllr. Loughnane stated that at the Protocol Meeting he had sought an update on the provision of telephones in the Councillors Party Rooms and requested that it be recorded. He added that it was unsatisfactory that despite a number of requests, telephones had not yet been provided in the party rooms. The County Secretary stated that he had discussed this matter with Eircom last week and he hoped the telephones would be installed quickly.*

*Cllr. Mannion stated that members should have access to party rooms during normal office hours. The County Secretary stated that some party rooms are used by the Council during office hours but undertook to have one room available to Councillors.*

*The County Secretary advised the Members of the following arrangements which had been agreed at the meeting of the Protocol Committee.*

## Monthly Meeting - 22/11/1999

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- Where possible the monthly meeting which commences at 3.30 p.m. should conclude by 6.00 p.m. and the Special Meeting which commences at 3.00 p.m. should conclude at 5.30 p.m..
- Replies to Notices of Motions may be raised at Area Meetings but may still be raised at Council meetings if of urgent importance.
- Mobile Phones should be switched off during Council Meetings
- The tea break at Council Meetings will be at 4.15 p.m.
- Deputations should only be received at Area Meetings, but in emergency cases may be received at County Hall and all area members shall be informed.
- Standing Orders of Area Committees to be implemented in relation to deputations.

Deputy Connaughton requested that the matter of centralised payments of Motor Taxation be included for discussion on the Agenda of a future meeting.

Cllr. Fahy complained at the haphazard parking in the Council car park adding that a steward should be on duty to ensure orderly parking. The County Secretary stated that there would be a person on the entrance gates with immediate effect pending the opening of the lower yard car park.

Cllr. Cunningham stated that at a recent meeting of the Gort Chamber of Commerce it had been proposed that the Council acquire the Gort Mart site by means of a compulsory purchase order as concern had been expressed recently regarding the location and building type proposed on the site. Cllr. Fahy agreed with Cllr. Cunningham stating that the type of building proposed was not suitable or in keeping with Gort's Heritage status.

Cllr. Mullins referred to a recent open letter in the Connaught Tribune regarding road safety at Aughrim cross and asked the County Manager for his comments on the letter. The County Manager stated that Council officials were investigating the matter.

## CONFERENCES

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On the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Callanan, it was agreed that the attendance of the following Members be approved at the Conferences set out hereunder, the cost of each Conference having been circulated to each Member:-

### General Council of County Councils Seminar – Arklow – 19/20<sup>th</sup> November, 1999

Cllrs. M. Loughnane,	Cllr. P O'Foighil,	Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. M. Conneely	Cllr. M. Hoade,	Cllr. J. Conneely
Cllr. S. Walsh	Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. T. McHugh,
Cllr. M. Mullins,	Cllr. J. Mannion	

Cllrs. M. Cunningham      Cllr. K. Quinn

**APPLICATION FOR REMISSION OF RATES IN                      249**  
**ACCORDANCE WITH UDARAS NA GAELTACHTA**  
**ACT 1979 FROM TEVELEC TEO, ROSSAVEAL.**

A report dated 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1999 had been circulated to each Member. It was proposed by An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, seconded by An Comhairleoir Ó Neachtain, and resolved to grant a remission of two thirds of the rate leviable to Tevelec Teo, Rossaveal for the period 1.1.94 to 31.12.2003, in accordance with the Udaras Na Gaeltachta Act 1979.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT                      250**  
**PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA**  
**AND ENVIRONS OF LOUGHREA - TOWNLAND OF**  
**CAHERWALTER      PLANNING REF NO:    99/1718**  
**APPLICANT: G & G DEVELOPMENTS**

Cllr. Matt Loughnane proposed that this item be deferred until a definite commitment is given in relation to the roadworks required to facilitate the development.

This was seconded by Cllr. Joe Callanan and agreed.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT                      251**  
**PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF TUAM &**  
**ENVIRONS IN THE TOWNLAND OF FARRANNAMARTIN**  
**PLANNING REF. NO.    99/3484, APPLICANT    MR. & MRS**  
**MARTIN & ANN FRAWLEY**

Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following report dated 16th November, 1999 which has been circulated to the Members.

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:**      Permission to construct 38 no. residential units and associated roads and services roads and services at Farrannamartin, Tuam, Co. Galway.

**LOCATION:**                              The site of the proposal is located at Farrannamartin just off the N17 inside the 40 mph speed limit in Tuam Town Environs. The area of the site is 2.006ha (4.95 acres)

**Monthly Meeting - 22/11/1999**

**PREVIOUS HISTORY:** 98/2859<sup>A</sup> - M Donohue & Son granted permission to erect 19 dwellinghouses with ancillary site works on 4th January, 1999. 97/1953<sup>A</sup> - P Togher granted outline planning permission for housing development on 13th October, 1997. 98/3243<sup>A</sup> - M Lardner granted permission for extension to side of office of Coca Cola Ltd on 7th December, 1998.

**ASSESSMENT:** The land is at present zoned for agricultural purposes, however, the proposed zoning in the new draft plan is for residential use, so it would be logical to grant permission. It would make a logical extension to build up area of Tuam town and an existing housing development which fronts onto the N17. The proposal includes 26% open space (1.30 acres or 0.405 ha). The Tuam Town plan only requires 10% open space. The site depths meet the requirements of the Tuam Plan. There will be no problem with overlooking as rear gardens are over 11 metres.

**ZONING:** The site is currently zoned agricultural in the Tuam Town Plan, but is zoned residential in the 1999 Tuam Draft Town Plan.

**OBJECTIONS:** No objections or submissions were received

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

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 23rd October, 1999 and the notice invited members of public to submit representations or objections. No submissions were received.

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

The latest date for a decision on this application is 22nd December, 1999

Deputy Paul Connaughton proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. & Mrs Martin & Ann Frawley for planning permission to construct 38 no. residential units and associated roads and services at Farrannamartin, Tuam, Co. Galway, planning reference no. 99/3484, and having considered the Report dated 16th November, 1999, on the matter, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(3) of Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963, as amended by Section 39(d) of Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act, 1991 hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application. Deputy Ulick Burke seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

**Monthly Meeting - 22/11/1999**

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**AR SON:**

*Cllr. J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Connelly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, K. Quinn, S. Walsh & T. Walsh (26)*

**IN AGHAIDH:** -----

*The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried .*

**APPOINTMENT OF FIVE CHAIRS DESIGNATE  
OF SPC's** 252

**EXTENSION OF TIME FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR SCHEDULED  
TOWNS OF TUAM AND ATHENRY.**

*The Chairman referred to the agreement of Members that voting on items on the Agenda would not take place until 4.00 p.m. As it was not yet 4.00 p.m. he stated that he was deferring Item No. 6 and moving onto Item No. 7. Many members objected to deferring item No. 6.*

*Councillor McClearn stated that the SPC appointments should be dealt with and objected to the Chairman deferring the item. He stated that he required legal advice on the deferment of the item and if necessary would propose that Councillor J. Burke take the Chair. Councillor J. Burke stated that he would agree to take the Chair.*

*Councillor Gavin stated that it had been agreed by Members at the last Council Meeting that this item would be dealt with and added that he would second Councillor McClearn's proposal if the item was not dealt with.*

*Following heated exchanges the Chairman stated that he was adjourning the Meeting for 10 minutes due to disorder and to inspect the Standing Orders for Council Meetings.*

*The Meeting then adjourned.*

*On the resumption of the Meeting the Chairman stated that having examined the Standing Orders he could not see anything in the Standing Orders that prohibited the Chairman from moving from one item on the Agenda to another, and he now intended to move on to deal with the next item on the Agenda.*

*Councillor Loughnane proposed that the Members approve the extension of time for the Development Plans for the Scheduled Towns of Tuam and Athenry as set out in*

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report dated 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1999 circulated to each Member. This was seconded by Councillor Callanan and agreed

Councillor McClearn asked the Chairman the basis for which he was refusing to deal with Item No. 6 on the Agenda.

The Chairman referred to the agreement that no votes would be taken before 4.00 p.m. to facilitate Members who were Teachers. He added that as Chairman he was in charge of the Meeting .

Councillor J. Burke requested the County Manager to give a ruling that what the Chairman was doing was not in accordance with Standing Orders and requested that legal advice be obtained to clarify the matter.

Councillor Gavin stated that he wanted to deal with the business on the Agenda and that no one had informed him the item should be deferred. He stated that it is not in order to change or alter an item on the Agenda and that if the Chairman could justify the change made he would accept this.

Councillor J. Burke informed the Chair that it was his duty to deal with the item and that he was being totally dishonest and unfair.

The Chairman stated that he was aware of his duties and asked Councillor J. Burke to withdraw his remarks.

Councillor J. Burke stated that the Chairman was refusing the wish of the Council.

Councillor Mullins stated that if the item was to be deferred a vote should be taken and if a majority agreed the item could be deferred.

The Chairman agreed to recommence discussion of Item No. 6. Councillor Loughnane proceeded to give details of the SPC Initiative. Members interrupted Councillor Loughnane stating he was not discussing the item on the Agenda namely the appointment of 5 Chairs Designate of SPC's.

Cllr JJ Mannion pointed out that a Councillor is only allowed speak for five minutes and he and other members sought to have a vote taken on the matter. Councillor Loughnane continued to outline the details of the SPC initiative and the involvement of different organisations in it. Members continued to interrupt Councillor Loughnane.

The Chairman then stated that he was adjourning the Meeting completely owing to disorder, the time being approximately 4.25 p.m.

The Meeting then ended.

**REPLIES NOTICES OF MOTION CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS**

**N.O.M. NO. 17 – LIGHTING – DEPUTY U. BURKE 253**

The following written reply was given to Deputy Burke:

"This location will be considered along with others when preparing next year's Public Lighting programme."

**N.O.M. NO. 18 – ROAD WIDENING – DEPUTY U. BURKE 254**

The following written reply was given to Deputy Burke:

"This is the National Secondary Road N66. The carrying out of widening and realignment works on such roads is 100% funded by the N.R.A. No grant was provided for this work in the current year."

**N.O.M. NO. 19 – SPEED LIMIT – DEPUTY U. BURKE 255**

The following written reply was given to Deputy Burke:

"The Council will be reviewing Speed Limits next year and this location will be considered along with others at that time."

**N.O.M. NO. 20 – SPEED LIMIT – CLLR. J. CONNEELY 256**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"The Council will be reviewing Speed Limits next year and this location will be considered along with others at that time."

**N.O.M. NO. 21 – ROAD RESURFACING – CLLR. J. CONNEELY 257**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"This road is listed in 5 Year Programme for year 2002. Only routine maintenance work can be done unless special funding is made available."

**N.O.M. NO. 22 – C.P.O. – CLLR. M. FAHY 258**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"A planning application was received on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1997, (planning reference no. 97/1559) from Kenny Development Company Ltd. to demolish Gort Mart Offices, cattle pens, sheds and semi derelict house and to construct:



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- A(i) Three ground floor retail units (supermarket, newsagent and off licence)
- A(ii) First floor open plan office
- A(iii) Duplex development overhead to consist of 11 no. 2/3 bedroom apartments and 11 no. 3/4 bedroom townhouses
- B. 32 bedroom hotel
- C. 10 terraced townhouses
- D. Two no. 4 bedroom detached houses; 8 no. 4 bedroom semi-detached houses; 10 no. 3 bedroom semi detached houses
- E. 264 car spaces in a multi level car park with 134 spaces on level 1 and 130 spaces on level 2
- F. Ancillary site works and services

Planning permission was granted for this development on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1997 subject to 24 conditions. This development has not taken place.

A further application has been received in respect of part of this site seeking planning permission for the construction of food retail unit, associated car parking and access to George's Street, Gort on behalf of Prival Ltd. - planning reference. No. 99/3666. A request for Further Information issued in respect of this application on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 1999. No reply was been received to date.

The Council will enquire from the applicant about the future use of the site."

**N.O.M. NO. 23 – FLOODING - CLLR. M. FAHY 259**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:

"Works to alleviate flooding at this location will be considered in next year's programme.

(b) The E.S.B. has been requested to provide 5 lights on existing poles and it is expected that this work will be carried out before the end of the current year."

**N.O.M. NO. 24 – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES – 260  
CLLR. M. FAHY**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:

"The £80,000 provided for Traffic Calming at Ardrahan/Kilcolgan is being fully utilised at Kilcolgan in order to complete the programme at this location. However, Ardrahan will be included under the Council's proposals to the N.R.A. for the year 2000."

**N.O.M. NO. 25 – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES – CLLR. 261  
N. GREALISH**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Grealish:

*"This location will be considered along with others when preparing next year's programme for Traffic Calming measures.*

**N.O.M. NO. 26 – ROAD MARKINGS – CLLR. N. GREALISH 262**

*The following written reply was given to Councillor Grealish:*

*"This location will be inspected as soon as possible and a full report will issue in due course."*

**N.O.M. NO. 27 – PORTUMNA SEWERAGE SCHEME – CLLR. P. HYNES 263**

*The following written reply was given to Councillor Hynes:-*

*"The construction work on the Portumna Sewerage Scheme is ongoing and the Council's Consultants are examining in detail the question of the Woodpark Sewerage Scheme extension."*

**N.O.M. NO. 28 – ROAD – CLLR. P. HYNES 264**

*The following written reply was given to Councillor Hynes:*

*"The road will have to be brought up to standard for taking in charge and an estimate for doing this is being prepared at present and will be forwarded to you as soon as possible."*

**N.O.M. NO. 29 – LOUGHREA SWIMMING POOL – CLLR. P. HYNES 265**

*The following written reply was given to Councillor Hynes:*

*"A Feasibility Study on a 25m pool for Loughrea was prepared by Holohan Leisure on behalf of the Loughrea Swimming Pool Company Ltd. and was submitted by the Council on behalf of the Company to the Department of Tourism, Sports & Recreation on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1999 seeking approval to the Feasibility Study and approval to move to the next stage of the project i.e. Appointments of Consultants for Preliminary proposals, Design and Construction stages. The Department responded on 11<sup>th</sup> June 1999 advising that due to the heavy commitment of funding, it would be some time before funding would be available for the new pool in Loughrea.*

*Following the Minister's announcement in August 1999 of a £45m grant-aid package for Local Authority Swimming Pools over the next three years the Council sought an update of the current status of the Loughrea project.*

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The Department in letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> October 1999 stated that there are 12 proposals (including Loughrea) to build new swimming pools in the Department at present and that as funding for 1999 and 2000 is committed to new pools in Navan, Ennis, Wicklow and Dundalk, it will be some time before the Minister will be in a position to progress any new pools.

The Department further advises that all proposals for new pools will be re-examined as soon as possible, giving consideration to such matters as:

- the need for a swimming pool in the area
- suitability of the proposed site
- future viability of the project, particularly in relation to operational and maintenance issues
- construction and operating standards of existing facilities
- satisfactory financial plan
- the need to achieve an equitable geographical spread of funds

The Council will continue to make every effort to secure the necessary funding for the Loughrea proposal."

**N.O.M. NO. 30 – ROAD – CLLR. N. GREALISH & SEN. J. MCDONAGH 266**

The following reply was given to Councillor Grealish and Senator McDonagh:-

"An application for funding to carry out improvements to traffic management at this location will be submitted to the N.R.A. within the next few weeks."

**N.O.M. NO. 31 – WATER MAIN – SEN. J. MCDONAGH 267**

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"I wish to advise that the Council's Consultants are examining the feasibility of providing an extension to the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme, Stage 3, to the villages of Lackagh and Turloughmore. It should be noted that Stage 2 of Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme will serve the areas mentioned via the Mid Galway Group Water Scheme."

**N.O.M. NO. 32 – SIGNS – SEN. J. MCDONAGH 268**

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

"There are no funds available at present to provide signs at above location. However, the signs will be provided when funds become available."

**N.O.M. NO. 33 – ROAD WORKS – CLLR. T. MCHUGH 269**

The following written reply was given to Councillor T. McHugh:-

"This location is included in the Council's 5 Year Plan for National Secondary Routes.

The National Roads Authority will be requested to provide funding for this location under next year's road grant allocations."

**N.O.M. NO. 34 – LIGHTING – CLLR. T. MCHUGH 270**

The following written reply was given to Councillor T. McHugh:-

"The provision of these lights will be considered in the preparation of the Year 2000 School Flashing Lights Programme."

**N.O.M. NO. 35 – ROAD WORKS – CLLR. T. MCHUGH 271**

The following written reply was given to Councillor T. McHugh

"Suitable sites for realignment works will be considered in the event of E.U. Co-Financed Grants being made available."

**N.O.M. NO. 36 – BOTHAR – AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 272**

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

Níl aon airgead ar fáil faoi láthair ach tá seans ann go gcuirfear tuilleadh comharthaí agus liníocht bán ar fáil."

**N.O.M. NO. 37 – BOTHAR – AN COMH. NI FHATHARTA 273**

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

"Beidh muid ag déanamh ar ndichead "Layby" chuir ar fáil ag an láthair seo, nuair a bheidh muid ag cuir dromchla nua ar má bhíonn a ndotháom aorgead ar fáil."

**N.O.M. NO. 38 – AIT PARCALA – AN COMH C NI FHATHARTA 274**

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

"Sé meastachán na h-oibre seo ná £2,500. Níl an obair seo curtha san áireamh i meastacháin na bliana seo."

**N.O.M. NO. 39 – ROAD – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN 275**

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

“A considerable amount of money was spent at this location under the Road Works Scheme some years ago. An application for assistance under the Community Involvement in Road Works Scheme has been received and is being considered at present.”

**N.O.M. NO. 40 – ROAD – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN 276**

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

“This road will be included in next year’s Road Works Programme.”

**N.O.M. NO. 41 – LIGHTING – CLLR. T. RABBITT 277**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Rabbitt:-

“The provision of pedestrian lights on the Maree Road is not recommended as this location did not meet the required warrants.”

**N.O.M. NO. 42 – ROAD WIDENING – CLLR. T. RABBITT 278**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Rabbitt:-

“No provision has been made for the carrying out of the above works in this year’s Road Works Programme.”

**N.O.M. NO. 43 – TREE TRIMMING – CLLR. T. RABBITT 279**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Rabbitt:-

“The local landowner has been approached in this matter.”

**N.O.M. NO. 44 – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES – CLLR. S. WALSH 280**

The following written reply was given to Councillor S. Walsh:

“This is the National Secondary route N59 and this section of roadway is subject to the maximum speed limit. Accordingly it is not possible to provide Traffic Calming measures at this location.”

**N.O.M. NO. 45 – ROAD REPAIRS – CLLR. S. WALSH 281**

The following written reply was given to Councillor S. Walsh:-

"The section of road situated in the Costelloe Engineering Area is the most deficient section of the road and a budget of £25,000 has been provided for this section under the year 2000 of the Council's 5 year plan. A budget of £66,000 has been provided under the year 2001 for the section of road in the Oughterard Engineering Area."

**N.O.M. NO. 46 – ROAD WIDENING – CLLR. S. WALSH 282**

The following written reply was given to Councillor S. Walsh:-

"The parking area at Killanin Church is private property and is therefore not the responsibility of Galway County Council. Lining can be provided to delineate the road centre line through this location."

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

Paddy McHugh  
Chairman

10<sup>th</sup> December 1999  
Date

Through an arianis leis an paidr.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

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The Chairman and all the members joined in a Vote of Sympathy to the following:-

## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### MINUTES OF STATUTORY ESTIMATES MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 1999

CATHAOIRLEACH:

An Comhairleoir P. McHugh

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllr. J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllr. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh & T. Walsh.

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, R.C. Killeen, A/Deputy Co. Engineer, P. Martyn, L. Gavin, J. Eising, S.E.E.'s, E. Power, T. Murphy, C. Wallace, T. Connell, A.O.'s, A. Farrell, E. Moloney, S.S.O.'s, J. O'Shaughnessy, C.F.O., P. McMahon, Co. Librarian, J. Harold, Arts Officer, C. Mac hAoda Bhuí, Irish Officer, F. Dawson, Director of Community and Enterprise, R. Gaughran, S.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniú leis an paidir.

#### RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

242

The Chairman and all the members joined in a Vote of Sympathy to the following: -

Minister E. O Cuiv on the recent death of his Father.  
D. Nelson, Assistant Co. Manager on the recent death of his Mother.  
L. Kavanagh, Chief Planning Officer on the recent death of his Mother.

The County Manager, on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff, joined in the expression of sympathy. Cllr. Fahy proposed, and it was agreed by the Members, to send a message of sympathy to Mrs. Maureen Lynch on the recent death of her husband, former Taoiseach Jack Lynch.

## ESTIMATES 2000

243

The Chairman, Cllr. P. McHugh complimented the Manager, the Finance Officer and all staff involved in the excellent presentation of the Estimates and the fact that, for the first time, the Estimates were also circulated in Irish to each member.

It was agreed by the Members that it would not be possible to finish the business of the Estimates in one meeting and that a date for a further meeting should be agreed at the end of the meeting.

The Chairman then asked the Manager to go through the Book of Estimates.

The County Manager went through, in detail, the contents of his report as set out in pages 1 – 80 of the Book of Estimates 2000, a copy of which had been circulated to each member.

He outlined the background information on the figures included in the Estimates 2000, and the context in which the balanced Estimate is presented to the Council, to assist members in finalising the formal adoption of the Estimates.

The income available to the Council falls into three categories, 1. State Grants 75% at £43,901,295, 2. Locally Determined Income, i.e. rates and other local charges 12½% at £7,618,690 and 3. Other miscellaneous income 12½% at £7,633,575. The expected increase of income over 1999 is approximately £8,000,000 bringing the estimated income in the year 2000 up to £59,153,560. Expenditure proposals must be contained to the level of income available.

Future allocations from the Local Government Fund will be based on a Needs and Resources Study which is at present being conducted by staff from Galway County Council, Jim Cullen and Paul Ridge, in conjunction with the Department of the Environment and Local Government. A presentation of the findings of this study will be made to members when completed.



The current favourable economic climate has resulted in increased rateable valuation base which provides additional rate income.

The Manager outlined proposals for the allocation of estimated income over the eight programme groups in the year 2000. In framing the Estimates of Expenses, the increase in the rate in the pound was proposed at 5% (the capped increase allowed by the Minister for 2000), bringing the proposed rate for 2000 to £37.99. The total estimated revenue and capital expenditure is £95,683,560 which is close to £2M per week. All Council services will show solid achievements in 1999 and it is intended to continue to build on these in the coming year. Major infrastructural expenditure is proposed by the Government in the period to 2006, details of which are set out in the National Development Plan due to be launched in Dublin today. Council activities should benefit greatly from these extra resources. The County Manager noted concerns relating to the capacity of the building industry to deal with the demands which will be placed on it in the coming years, by the N.D.P.

The County Manager paid tribute to all council staff for their hard work and dedication, to the Cathaoirleach Councillor Paddy McHugh and his predecessor Cllr. Joe Brennan for their co-operation, to all community and local groups in the county for their hard work and co-operation with the Council and to schools and teachers for their co-operation with various activities in 1999. The coming year presents us with many challenges and the attached estimates are the framework for meeting these challenges. He recommended that the attached estimates be adopted by the members.

The Chairman thanked the Manager on his own behalf and on behalf of the Members for his presentation and praised the layout of the Estimates document. He then invited comments from the members.

Cllr. Joe Callanan stated that an increase of 5% on the rate in the pound is very severe as some small businesses were experiencing hard times. He asked that some allowances be made for small businesses in trouble. He welcomed the proposed development of the Fire Service and also the planned Maintenance Programme for Council Houses. The provision of 1430 houses over the next 4 years is also very desirable. He expressed annoyance at the wording of the details of the Disabled Persons Grant; in particular, the last sentence and he stated that he wanted this removed as he feels all disabled persons should be helped. It is not possible to prioritise disability. This wording is not appropriate. The "Improvement Works in lieu of Local Authority Housing" is not working properly and he asked that this be examined by Council Officials. In relation to Housing loans which issued in the past at 12% fixed rate, he asked if the Council redeem these loans, as loanees have to go to private lending agencies to redeem their loans and so avail of current low interest rates.

The dual carriageway proposed from Dublin to Galway is very welcome. He said that more money is required for Local Improvement Schemes. Community

involvement in road improvements has proved very successful. Motor Tax Offices should be included in the one-stop-shops. Ballinasloe should have a testing centre for new vehicle testing for private cars. There should be no water charges for Churches and as farming is going through a bad time, there should be no increase in charges for water troughs. Finally, Cllr. Callanan praised the great work being done in the area of Group Water Schemes and paid particular tribute to Area Engineer's and staff in Area Offices.

Cllr. Joe Burke welcomed the planned Housing Maintenance Programme. He expressed disappointment at the level of funding for Essential Repair Grants. This should be given more priority. The figure of £5,000 increase for provision of new public lights is not enough. He agreed with Cllr. Callanan with regard to the National Vehicle Test Centre and proposed that either Tuam or Ballinasloe should have a test centre. He queried the distribution of £18M motor tax receipts. It was explained that this is paid into the Local Government Fund, the distribution of which is a matter for the Minister. Regarding contribution to the Arts, he felt that there was a previous commitment to bring this figure up to £100,000 in the year 2000 and stated that £60,000 was not enough. He asked that the one-stop-shop proposed for Tuam include a Motor Tax Office. He strongly welcomed the new Traffic and Litter Wardens in Oughterard, Tuam and Loughrea. He asked Council officials for help in sorting out problems with regard to the Register of Electors to avoid a repeat of problems encountered last June.

Cllr. M. Fahy congratulated the Manager on the completion of the New County Hall in 1999. He welcomed the Kinvara Sewerage Scheme Improvements and Gort Sewerage/Water Scheme Improvements. He acknowledged the work of all staff and asked that the position of temporary outdoor staff be examined with a view to making permanent appointments. He stated that the cutting of grass margins should now be considered as important as fixing potholes in the maintenance of roads, for safety reasons. He requested that the Notice of Motion allocation for Councillors be increased to £10,000. He supported Cllr. Callanan in his comments regarding Disabled Persons Grants and asked that more priority be given to these grants. He stated that Motor Tax Collection is a service that could be given at Post Offices. Motor Tax Staff in the Council could be absorbed into other areas, such as Planning, which is very busy. He welcomed the allocation of £15,000 for Kilmacduagh Cemetery and asked that toilet facilities be provided at this location.

Deputy Ulick Burke congratulated the Manager and his staff for their forward thinking, which will allow the Council to take full advantage of the resources being made available to Council's in the N.D.P. He praised the Housing Department, in particular, and welcomed the provision of rural houses. He stated that the figure of £22,000 for land drainage is totally inadequate. The people in South Galway are suffering as a result of flooding, on an annual basis. He asked the Manager to liaise with the Minister with a view to increasing the allocation towards flood alleviation in South Galway. Deputy Burke joined his

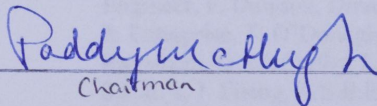
colleagues in welcoming the planned Housing Maintenance Programme. He also welcomed the upgrading of traveller accommodation. He paid tribute to the wonderful work being carried out at present at Gort Bride, Loughrea. He highlighted an anomaly in the Higher Education Grant system whereby persons are not given any allowance off their income in respect of lease commitments. He requested that this problem be examined.

He welcomed extra staff being recruited to the Planning area. He hoped that no major industrial projects or other developments would be lost to the Galway area due to pressure of work within Planning. He also welcomed the Roads Programme and asked if the Council could proceed with negotiation with landowners in respect of the Loughrea By-pass. With regard to Local Improvement Schemes, he said there was a waiting list of up to 5 years up to recently. He asked that this problem be addressed.

The Chairman stated that, as there were many more members who wished to speak, it would not be possible to hear them all at today's meeting. He therefore proposed, and it was agreed, that the meeting be adjourned until Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30 p.m.

## CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Chairman

20<sup>th</sup> December 1999  
Date

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 1999**

**Cathaoirleach:**

Cllr. P. McHugh

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, J. McClearn, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. T. McHugh, M. Mullins, P. O'Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh & T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:-**

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Collieran, Co. Engineer, F. Dawson, Director of Community & Enterprise, T. O'Donoghue, Law Agent, L. Kavanagh, G. McCarthy, L. Gavin, F. Gilmore, S.E.E.'s, J. Eising, A/S.E.E., R. Timlin, A/Exec. Engineer, A. Comer, Asst. Planner, E. Power, A.O., T. Murphy, A/A.O., M. Jordan, S.O. & C. Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge

**Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.**

The Cathaoirleach requested all mobile phones to be turned off during the meeting. He said he wished to mention a number of items at the start of the Meeting.

Cllr P. Hynes asked when the new car park would be ready and the County Secretary explained that it would be ready within the next couple of weeks. The lower car park will be used for both staff and the public. Cllr Callanan enquired if there would be any

wheelchair spaces available in the lower yard car park. The County Secretary explained that there were three spaces available in the main car park.

Cllr O'Neachtain said that he had received a number of complaints from the public about the placement of the County Councils phone number in the new directory. The County Secretary explained that Eircom changed the system and the Council wished its listings to remain as before, but this did not happen. The Councillors requested that the phone number should be displayed in a prominent place in the Post Offices around the County.

The time of the Estimates Meeting was confirmed for 2.30 on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> November, but the venue has been changed from Gort to County Hall. The Cathaoirleach explained that the Monthly Meeting on Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November would be at 3.00 p.m. and the Minor and Intermediate Hurlers would be invited to attend a reception afterwards in County Hall. Mr. Joe McDonagh, President of G.A.A. would be unable to attend.

## RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

223

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors expressed sympathy to Declan Nelson on the death of his mother. The County Manager expressed sympathy on behalf of the staff and on his own behalf.

Resolutions of Sympathy were also passed to:

Mrs. Ita Dervan, Lakeside Park, Loughrea, Co. Galway  
Mr. Philip Powell, c/o Galway Fire Station, Fr. Griffin Road, Galway  
Mr. & Mrs. Tony Joyce, Ardnasella, Oughterard, Co. Galway  
Mr. P.J. Gavin & Family, Patch, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Michael & Deirdre Gavin, Trasternagh, Moylough, Co. Galway  
Mr. Brian Donnellan, Carrarea, Kiltulla, Atheryn, Co. Galway.

## COUNTY HALL

224

The Cathaoirleach informed the Meeting that Galway County Council's new Headquarters had won the Irish Architect Client of the Year Award 1999. The citation accompanying the Award acknowledged the County Manager, Donal O'Donoghue as the driving force behind the redevelopment of the Council's Headquarters in Galway. The Cathaoirleach praised Jack Eising who was an important link between the Design Team and the Builder. He also explained that the County Hall had been in the running for a second award, The Millennium Construction Excellence Award. The Awards are organised by the Construction Industry Federation. County Hall was short-listed with three other projects but was not successful on the night.

Cllr McClearn said that the awards the Council really wants to win were for their service to the public. He said that some departments still need to be improved and

that the County Council should not lose sight of their functions. The Cathaoirleach said that the Council is constantly striving to improve its services.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**225**

The Cathaoirleach mentioned the 1998 Annual Report which had just been published and praised its new bilingual layout. He said that it showed that Galway County Council was acknowledging the Gaeltacht areas of the County. He also said that Capital and Revenue Expenditure was approximately £80M for the year and there was a 28% increase in planning applications and a 9% increase in vehicle registrations. The major Capital projects in progress were Oranmore and Portumna Sewerage Schemes. The Annual Report lists all the services provided by the Council and the Media should bring this to the attention of the Public.

An Comhairleoir O'Foighil congratulated the Council Officials on the publication of the Bilingual Annual Report. He said that it is an example for other Councils and that it is very well presented. He also congratulated the Council on the publication of the Estimates in both Irish and English. He said that it was a great advance for the Council and showed that they were interested in the Gaeltacht areas. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain agreed and he hoped that the Annual Report would be distributed to the schools in the county for their libraries. He felt it would encourage the youth to have a better understanding of the democratic system. Cllr J. Conneely and Senator J. McDonagh also praised the publication of the bilingual Annual Report. The Cathaoirleach said that the Annual Report would be circulated in the Council Offices, Libraries and Schools in the County. Cllr J. Joyce praised the Annual report and he congratulated the Council on winning the architectural award. He explained that the stone for the building was taken from the quarry in Ballinasloe and he hoped that a task force could be set up to increase the quantity of stone extracted from this quarry.

## **SALE OF SITE AT DOUGHISKA TO GALWAY CORPORATION**

**226**

On the proposal of Senator J. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr T. McHugh the Council approved the sale of site at Doughiska to Galway Corporation in accordance with notice dated 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946 which had been circulated to each Member.

## **SALE OF SITES AT CAHERLAVINE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOUGHREA TO CONRAD MULDOON**

**227**

Cllr. Cunningham proposed that this item be deferred to the Loughrea Area Meeting as St Brendan's Development Company Ltd. who sold the lands to the County Council now wish to have the opportunity to buy back the lands. A number of Councillors objected as the proper procedure had already been adhered to. The County Secretary explained that the County Council had purchased the land for the development of small industrial sites. They have been on sale for the last number of

years and the Council has an obligation to accept the best price offered. Cllr Callanan seconded Councillor Cunningham's proposal and explained that St Brendan's Development Company Ltd. have made proposals that would enable development on these sites. The County Manager explained that an application by the Loughrea Chamber of Commerce to the Department of Enterprise and Employment for grant aid had been unsuccessful.

A vote taken on Councillor Cunningham's proposal resulted as follows:-

**AR SON:** Cllr. J. Callanan, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Hoade, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, P. McHugh, S. O' Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt & M. Fahy (13)

**IN AGHAIDH:** Cllr. J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. S. Gavin, P. Hynes, J. McClearn, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. T. McHugh, P. O'Foighil & T. Walsh (10)

The Cathaoirleach declared the motion carried.

#### **SALE OF SITE AT ILLAUNE, MILLTOWN, TUAM 228**

On the proposal of Deputy P. Connaughton, seconded by Cllr S. O'Neachtain, the Council approved the sale of site at Illaune, Milltown, Tuam to Ms. Christina Foye in accordance with Notice dated 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1999 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946.

#### **MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY IN TOWNLAND OF CAHERROYN PLANNING REF: 98/4021 APPLICANT: J.J. BRADY 229**

Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following Report dated 5<sup>th</sup> November 1999, which had been circulated to the Members:-

**“APPLICANT:** J.J. Brady

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:** Outline permission for a housing development of 13 houses and associated services in the townland of Caherroyn, Athenry, Co Galway

**LOCATION:** The site is located at Caherroyn, Athenry and abuts two roads, one being the Monivea Road, the other leading to the Tuam Road. The site is 0.64 ha or 1.58 acres in area.

**PREVIOUS HISTORY:** There are no previous applications on this site

**ASSESSMENT:** The applicant proposes 13 no. houses on this site – comprising 5 semi-detached and 3 no. detached units. Density achieved is 8.22 dwellinghouses/acre. This proposal is located adjacent to an urban area in what is primarily a residential area. The housing density is in line with recommendations for urban greenfield sites as put forward by the Department of the Environment. The site is serviceable and the applicant proposes to connect the foul sewer to the existing town system which is located nearby. Surface water is proposed to be disposed of within the site.

**ZONING:** This site is currently zoned agriculture in the Athenry Town Plan, but is zoned residential in the 1999 Athenry Draft Town Plan.

**OBJECTIONS:** No objections or submissions were received

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

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1999 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections. No submissions were received.

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

The latest date for a decision on this application is 20<sup>th</sup> November, 1999."

Councillor Loughnane proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by J.J. Brady for outline permission for housing development of 13 houses and associated services in the townland of Caherroyn, Athenry, Co. Galway, planning reference no. 98/4021 and having considered the Report dated 5<sup>th</sup> November 1999, on the matter, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(3) of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963, as amended by Section 39(d) of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act 1991, hereby require a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor Cunningham seconded this proposal. A vote taken resulted as follows:-

**AR SON:** Cllr. J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllr. M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, T. McHugh, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt & T. Walsh (23)



**IN AGHAIDH:** -----

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried.

**APPROVAL OF AMENITY AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY GRANTS FOR 1999** **230**

A Report dated 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1999 outlining the recommendations for the Amenity and Economic Activity Grants for 1999 was circulated to each Member.

The Cathaoirleach said that there was £95,000 provided for Amenity and Economic Activity Grants for 1999.

The County Secretary explained that the number of applicants was increasing each year and that many groups had applied for both grants. He said that Ms. Mary Flynn had put a lot of work into assessing the grant applications. The County Manager said that there will be a Seminar held during the Winter in relation to Tidy Towns. He said that there is a lot of emphasis on the Environment and heritage in the Tidy Town Awards.

The Councillors acknowledged Mary Flynn's work with Community Groups and welcomed the grants for the towns and villages in their areas. They felt that the grants encourage community spirit. On the proposal of Cllr T. Mannion, seconded by Cllr M. Cunningham the Amenity and Economic Activity Grants for 1999 were approved.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Aoife De Paor from the Tuam Herald who replaces Declan Varley who has gone to Magpie Magazine as Editor. He also congratulated Siobhan Hollimount from Galway Bay F.M. on her recent marriage.

**CONSIDERATION OF S.P.C. GUIDELINES** **231**

The County Secretary referred to report dated 29<sup>th</sup> October 1999 which had been circulated to each Member. He said that the guidelines suggest four SPC's but bigger Counties may have five. The guidelines also suggest a term of two years for the chairperson. It was agreed by the Members that the Chairpersons Designate of the S.P.C.s should be appointed at the next meeting and that there would be 5 SPC's.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD** **232**

Mr Frank Dawson, Director of Services, made a presentation addressing a wide range of issues concerning the establishment of the County Development Boards. This included a report on the background leading to the task force on the integration of Local Government and Local Development, Agencies being established and the findings that a County Development Board should be set up in each County and County Borough addressing the Social, Economic and Cultural needs of the area in

the form of a ten year strategy. The Local Authorities in County Galway will have ten Representatives on the new board these being the Cathaoirleach, five Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons, County Manager, two Local Authority Representatives and a Member representing Town Local Authorities. Also included will be Representatives of Local Development Agencies, State Agencies and Social Partners. It is the Governments expectation that the County Development Board will provide a framework for planning, delivered through one comprehensive, economic, social and cultural strategy. The board will also provide a strong co-ordinating mechanism to foster inter agency liaison. The Director outlined his own role within the staff of Galway County Council which will facilitate the involvement of the Community and Voluntary Sector to a greater extent in a consultative role. The office of the Director of Community and Enterprise will also lead, reinforce, promote and guide Local Authority activity relating to Community Development in its broader sense. In summary the Director concluded that the initiative was an example of the Governments commitment to the programme of renewal of Local Government. A process of establishing a community forum was being undertaken in conjunction with the Councils establishment of S.P.C.s and he expected the Board to be in place as early as possible in the first quarter of the year 2000.00

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain said he was a member of the County Strategy Group linking the City and County and asked if the new structure was manageable. Mr. Dawson explained that the board was made up of 29 or 30 members which he felt was manageable. Cllr O'Sullivan said that it was a major task but it is essential in the county where there are so many groups and organisations. Cllr Connolly said that he felt that the needs of the city and county were diverse. Mr. Dawson replied that the board will be responsible for making clear decisions. He said that bringing groups together is a big task and he has experience in this area and believes that the spirit is there for groups to work together. He said that they would work with the City and acknowledge their differences. Mr. Dawson said he would circulate the overheads to all councillors and he would be available to attend area committee meetings on request.

**QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER** 233  
- E.P.A. REPORT 1997

This item was deferred.

**POLICY IN RELATION TO SALE OF BURIAL PLOTS** 234

This item was deferred.

**NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO INTER RAIL** 235  
**COMMITTEE**

This item was deferred.

**ENUREMENT CLAUSES IN PLANNING PERMISSIONS 236**

This item was deferred.

**PLANNING BILL 1999 237**

This item was deferred.

**REVIEW OF SPEED LIMITS 239**

This item was deferred.

**CONFERENCES 240**

On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Regan it was agreed that the attendance of the following Members be approved at the Conference set out hereunder, the cost of each Conference having been circulated to each Member:-

**National Tourism Conference – Ennis – 26 November 1999**

Cllr. P. McHugh

Cllr. M. Hoade

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS 241**

**Waste Management**

Cllr N. Grealish requested that the closing date for submissions on the Waste Management should be deferred until the end of February, 2000 to give the public more time to consider it. The County Manager explained that the plan will go on display within the next fortnight for two months. He said that he will speak to Mr Gavin, City Manager re deferring the closing date as the plan covers the Connaught Region.

**Road Works**

Cllr Cunningham asked if all road works were ceasing in the Engineering Areas next week because the monies have been spent. He said that extra road works should be carried out during the month of December. The County Manager said he was not aware of this. He explained that some works have to be complete by the end of October in order to make claims from the Department but other works were continuing and money is available to maintain the road network. The County Engineer said that activities were scaled down coming into the winter but permanent

staff are kept on. He explained that the Council have a five-year plan in place for reconstruction of roads. The biggest difficulty is acquiring land quickly.

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL ON 18th OCTOBER, 1999

## CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

### LATHAIR FREISIN:

#### Baili

Submitted      Approved      +      Signed:

Paddy McHugh  
Chairman

20<sup>th</sup> December 1999

Date

*Thóir na h-ansin leas an paidir.*

### CONGRATULATIONS

190

The Members congratulated Loughrea Athletic Club on the success of the recent National Road Race held in the Town.

The Members also congratulated the Galway Intermediate Hurling Team on their All-Ireland success.

Monthly Meeting - 18/10/1999

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL ON 18th OCTOBER, 1999**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

An Comhairleoir P. McHugh

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. T. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh & T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:**

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, R.C. Killeen, D/Co. Engineer, F. Dawson, Director of Community & Enterprise, G. McCarthy, S.E.P., J. Eising, A/S.E.E., E. Power & T. Connell, A.O.'s, P. Carroll, S.S.O., M. Killoran-Coyne, S.O. & C. Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaelge

**Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

190

The Members congratulated Loughrea Athletic Club on the success of the recent National Road Race held in the Town.

The Members also congratulated the Galway Intermediate Hurling Team on their All-Ireland success.

**TRANSLATION SERVICE**

191

*An Cathaoirleach informed the Members that in recognition of the importance of the Irish language in the Council's deliberations a translation service was now available at Council Meetings.*

**MINUTES**

192

*Minutes of Special Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.*

*The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Councillor Callanan.*

*The Report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.*

*The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Deputy Connaughton.*

*The Report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.*

**TOWN RENEWAL SCHEME**

193

*The Members had been circulated with a copy of the Scoping Report on the twelve towns in County Galway eligible under the Town Renewal Scheme. The County Manager outlined details of the Town Renewal Scheme, a copy of which had also been circulated to members. He referred to the criteria for town selection and advised members that twelve towns in County Galway were eligible under the scheme and that five of these towns must now be selected and have Town Renewal Plans prepared for them.*

*The Chairman of the Council then asked Hugh Brady of Brady Shipman Martin Consultants to make a presentation on the Scoping Report to the Council. Mr. Brady referred to the Town Renewal Scheme and its emphasis on refurbishment and the elimination of dereliction. He outlined the objectives of the scheme and the criteria of town selection. He then outlined the contents of the Scoping Report in respect of each of the following towns:- Athenry, Ballinasloe, Ballygar, Clifden, Gort, Headford, Loughrea, Mountbellew, Moycullen, Oranmore, Oughterard and Portumna. In conclusion, he recommended that Ballygar, Clifden, Headford, Loughrea and*

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Portumna be selected as the five towns in County Galway for which Town Renewal Plans would be prepared.

The Cathaoirleach thanked him for his presentation.

The Members welcomed the scheme in respect of the five towns recommended in the Scoping Report. However, in the lengthy discussion which followed Members expressed their disappointment at the omission of Mountbellew, Ballinasloe and Gort. It was considered that the terms of reference for this scheme were such that Mountbellew was ideally suited for selection under this scheme. Furthermore, it was also considered that Gort a heritage town would have benefited from the further promotion and development of local heritage and culture as envisaged by the Town Renewal Scheme. In relation to the omission of Ballinasloe the members considered that the town should have been included in the scheme as it was considered that East Galway had been neglected. It was also noted that no town in the Gaeltacht area had been selected.

Councillor Loughnane proposed that the five towns recommended for selection under the Town Renewal Scheme as set out in the consultants Scoping Report be accepted and that the Department of the Environment and Local Government be requested to include the towns of Ballinasloe, Gort and Mountbellew under the scheme. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Callanan.

Members also expressed concern that smaller villages were excluded from the scheme. It was considered that a specific scheme for these smaller villages, with a population under five hundred, was required and should be devised by the Department of Environment and Local Government in order to regenerate these areas, foster rural development and counter rural decline.

In response to the matters raised by the members, Hugh Brady of Brady Shipman Martin Consultants indicated that for the purposes of Phase One of the scheme the maximum number of towns for which Galway County Council could submit plans to the Department of Environment and Local Government was five. It was expected that the first phase of the scheme would come into operation in early 2000. He considered that towns not recommended for selection in Phase One should be included in subsequent phases of the programme. He advised that Ballinasloe already had Urban Renewal Designation which had been very successful and this fact had to be taken into account in selecting towns under the Town Renewal Scheme. He also noted that the population of towns were based on the 1996 Census of Population and that demographic changes should be addressed in subsequent phases of the Town Renewal Scheme. He referred again to the three year timescale for Phase One of this scheme and indicated that towns not included in this phase could be included in latter phases. In response to queries he indicated that the consultants would participate with the Council in public consultation and that the scheme envisaged the establishment of a consultative committee in each of the towns for which a town renewal plan is to be prepared.

The County Manager referred to the benefits of this scheme for the five towns recommended for selection and noted that the seven towns not included in this phase

could be considered in the next phase of the scheme. He recommended that the Council accept the Consultants recommendation contained in the Scoping Report. He indicated that the plans for the five towns would be presented to the Council in advance of their submission to the Department of Environment. He advised the Members that the plans had to be submitted to the Department of Environment and Local Government by the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1999.

The Cathaoirleach referred to Councillor Loughnane's proposal which had been seconded by Councillor Callanan. It was agreed by the Council that "the five towns recommended for selection under the Town Renewal Scheme as set out in the consultants Scoping Report be accepted and that the Department of the Environment and Local Government be requested to include the towns of Ballinasloe, Gort and Mountbellew under the scheme".

It was also agreed by the Council that the Department of Environment and Local Government would be requested to prepare a specific scheme for smaller villages with a population under five hundred.

## **ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS – WATER SERVICES**

**194**

A copy of the Report on Assessment of Needs – Water Services had been circulated to each Member.

Councillor Callanan stated that five additional schemes should be included in the list of schemes to be constructed during the period 2000 – 2006, namely Kilconnell Aughrim, Caltra, New Inn and Laurencetown sewerage schemes.

Councillor Connolly stated that the organisers of group water schemes were doing an excellent job and there was an urgent need to accelerate funding for group water schemes.

An Comhairleoir O Foighil stated that a special request should be made to the Department seeking funding towards high cost water schemes, such as experienced on the off-shore islands.

Councillor Joyce thanked Council Officials for their efforts to get Ballinasloe Regional Water Scheme to the next stage.

Councillor Cunningham asked what stage the Gort Regional Water Supply Scheme and the Kinvara Sewerage Scheme were at and when funding could be expected.

An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta stated that the Council were waiting too long for the Conamara Environmental Project and sought details of the position regarding the project.

Councillor Loughnane referred to the Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme which had been drawn up years ago, with no action to-date and proposed it as a top priority and that it be brought before the Loughrea Area Committee for discussion.



He added that the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme was virtually serving the town boundary of Loughrea and questioned why houses within a mile of the town were not supplied by the Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme.

Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager referred to the volume of schemes identified in the report and to the fact that investment in Sanitary Services over the last twenty years could not compare with investment in the roads network. He stated that the Council had expended its allocation and had also expended allocations not used up by other counties which highlighted the level of activity now in Water Services. Referring to the Conamara Environmental Project he stated that it was listed at number two in the priority list for water schemes for the period 2000-2006 and that the Council were getting funding for elements of the project and pursuing funds for the remainder of the project. With regard to Islands, he realised the difficulties with water schemes on the Islands and that if it can be shown that an additional reservoir is needed for Inis Meain, the Council will seek funding from the Department.

Mr. J. Eising, A/S.E.E. stated that approval had been received from the Department of the Environment & Local Government for site investigation of Gort Regional Water Supply Scheme and that Consultants have been appointed to carry out a hydrological survey of the harbour at Kinvara and to submit a preliminary report.

Referring to Kilcolgan Water Supply, he stated that the Council were examining augmenting the supply to Clarinbridge which would free up additional water supply for Kilcolgan. He stated that all constituent elements of the Conamara Environmental Project were included in the Water Services Programme.

Referring to the proposal by Councillor Callanan to include the five named schemes in the 2000-2006 Programme, he stated that while they can be included under the 2000-2006 Programme, the Council were seeking funds for three of the schemes under other initiatives, namely Caltra, Laurencetown and Aughrim Schemes.

He stated that water from the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme was coming to within a few miles of Loughrea and that the supplying of group water schemes north of Loughrea from this source was under investigation. He added that supply in South East Galway was poor due to its limestone condition and that it would be intended to supply this area from Loughrea Lake.

Mr. D. Nelson, Assistant County Manager stated that Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme was at No. 3 in the Water Services list for the period 2000-2006 and was not being ignored.

## **QUALITY OF DRINKING WATER – EPA REPORT 1997**

**195**

This item was deferred.

**POLICY IN RELATION TO SALE OF BURIAL PLOTS 196**

*This item was deferred.*

**NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO INTER RAIL COMMITTEE 197**

*This item was deferred.*

**ENUREMENT CLAUSES IN PLANNING PERMISSIONS 198**

*This item was deferred.*

**REVIEW OF SPEED LIMITS 199**

*This item was deferred.*

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS 200**

**Gort Fire Station**

*It was agreed that the Official Opening of Gort Fire Station would take place on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1999 and that the Estimates Meeting would take place in Gort at 2.30 p.m. on the same day.*

**Flannery Bridge**

*It was agreed that the Official Opening of Flannery Bridge would take place on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1999.*

**Agricultural Committee Meeting**

*It was agreed that a Meeting of the Agricultural Committee would take place on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 1999.*

**Reception – Galway Minor Team**

*It was agreed that the Galway Minor Team would be invited to a Reception hosted by the Council in recognition of their success and that the President of the G.A.A. Joe McDonagh be invited to attend on the same day.*

**COUNCIL MEETINGS 201**

*The Cathaoirleach stated that at the Protocol Committee Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> October 1999, it had been agreed that there should be an expectation that the Monthly Meeting which commences at 3.30 p.m., should conclude by 6.00 p.m. and the Special*

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Meeting which commences at 3.00 p.m. should conclude at 5.30 p.m., and that efforts should be made to adhere to this time-scale where possible.

He also stated that it had been agreed at the Protocol Committee Meeting that mobile phones should be turned off prior to commencement of business at Council Meetings. He added that at future Council Meetings, it would be the intention to have a ten minute break from 4.15 p.m.

## **AREA MEETINGS**

202

The Cathaoirleach stated that at the Protocol Committee Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> October 1999 it had been agreed that the Standing Orders which apply to Area Committee Meetings should be adhered to which include a procedure for dealing with deputations. He asked that the Chairpersons of each Area Committee be circulated with a copy of Standing Orders for Area Meetings.

## **CONFERENCES**

203

On the proposal of Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Regan it was agreed that the attendance of the following Members be approved at the Conferences set out hereunder, the cost of each Conference having been circulated to each Member:-

*Waste Management Strategies and Solutions – Dundalk – 6/7 October 1999*

Cllr. J. Callanan

Cllr. T. Mannion

*Planning for Community Development -Dundalk Chamber of Commerce – Carrickmacross*

Cllr. P. McHugh

*Bord na Gaeilge Conference – Dingle – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> October 1999*

Cllr. P. McHugh

*L.A.M.A. Conference – Newcastle*

Cllr. P. McHugh

*Briefing Conference On E.U. Affairs – Brussels/Louvain – 8/10 November 1999*

Cllr. T. Rabbitt

Cllr. M. Connolly

Cllr. S. Walsh

Cllr. T. Mannion

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**Social Housing Conference - Limerick - 21/22 October 1999**

Cllr. M. Cunningham  
Cllr. M. Hoade

Senator J. McDonagh

Cllr. N. Grealish

**General Council of County Councils - Arklow - 19/20 November 1999**

Cllr. M. Mullins  
Cllr. K. Quinn  
Cllr. J. McClearn  
Cllr. S. O'Neachtain  
Cllr. M. Regan  
Cllr. P. Hynes

Cllr. M. Hoade  
Cllr. J. Joyce  
Cllr. T. Mannion  
Cllr. T. McHugh  
Cllr. N. Grealish  
Cllr. T. Rabbitt

Cllr. P. O'Foighil  
Deputy P. Connaughton  
Cllr. T. Walsh  
Senator J. McDonagh  
Cllr. M. Cunningham  
Cllr. M. Connolly

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**N.O.M. NO. 13 - WATER MAINS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 204**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely-

"The watermain extends as far as the gravity system will allow at present on the Westport Road. It would require major expenditure to extend the system further."

**N.O.M. NO. 14 - ROAD WORKS - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 205**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"There are no funds available for improvement to the road at Derrylea. Work has already started on the approach road."

**N.O.M. NO. 15 - SPEED LIMIT - CLLR. J. CONNEELY 206**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"This matter will be considered when the next speed limit review is carried out."

**N.O.M. NO. 16 - ROAD IMPROVEMENTS - CLLR. M. FAHY 207**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"Remedial work to alleviate flooding will commence shortly."

**N.O.M. NO. 17 - PEDESTRIAN LIGHTS - CLLR. M. FAHY 208**

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

*"Traffic calming measures will be introduced in Kilcolgan shortly. This will allow for easier crossing of the National Primary Road in the village."*

**N.O.M. NO. 18 – TRAFFIC LIGHTS – CLLR. M. FAHY** 209

*The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-*

*"Previous traffic surveys showed that traffic lights were not warranted. However, as traffic increases the location will be monitored. If it reaches a point where traffic lights are warranted, they will be put in place."*

**N.O.M. NO. 19 – ROAD WORKS – CLLR. J.J. MANNION** 210

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

*"This road is not included for improvement in the current Roadworks Programme. Routine maintenance will be carried out as resources permit."*

**N.O.M. NO. 20 – ROAD MARKING – CLLR. J.J. MANNION** 211

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

*"It is proposed to carry out some lining work on this stretch of road in the near future."*

**N.O.M. NO. 21 – SEWAGE – CLLR. J.J. MANNION** 212

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

*"The position regarding the sewerage system at Roundstone Harbour is being examined at the present time. As you are aware, the Council are in the process of upgrading the network under the small schemes programme."*

**N.O.M. NO. 22 – ROAD WORKS – SEN. J. MCDONAGH** 213

*The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-*

*"No overtaking signs and continuous white lining has been provided at this location. Any further works would give rise to major realignment."*

**N.O.M. NO. 23 – ROAD SAFETY – SEN. J. MCDONAGH** 214

*The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-*

*"The yield sign will be replaced by a stop sign at the junction. A continuous white line would not be appropriate. Other measures to improve safety will be investigated."*

**N.O.M. NO. 24 – SIGNS – SEN. J. MCDONAGH**

**215**

*The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-*

*"Signs indicating Turloughmore and Lackagh will be put in place at this junction shortly".*

**N.O.M. NO. 25 – BRUSCAR – AN COMH. C. NI  
FHATHARTA**

**216**

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

*"Tá an seirbhís bailiúchan bruscar sa chontae curtha ar fáil ag conraitheoirí príobháideach agus caithfidh muintir Meallrua, Muigh Inis dul í dteagmháil leis an conraitheoir chun an seirbhís a leathnú chuig a gceantar fhéin."*

**N.O.M. NO. 26 – TEACH – AN COMH. C. NI  
FHATHARTA**

**217**

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

*"Is teach réamh déanta é seo agus tá sé beartaithe ag an gComhairle Chontae scéim a chur i bhfeidhm an bhliain seo chugainn chun mór dhéisiú a dhéanamh ar tithe mar seo no chun tithe nua a chur ina n-áit más gá."*

*Déanfar iniúcadh ar an dteach seo agus má gá ann do dheisiú práinneach déanfar an deisiú seo láithreach."*

**N.O.M. NO. 27 – "MALL PAISTI AG TRASNU" – AN  
COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA**

**218**

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

*"Déanfar an obair seo go gairid."*

**N.O.M. NO. 28 – ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – CLLR. P.  
O'SULLIVAN**

**219**

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

*"This matter is currently being assessed and a costing will be sent to you shortly."*

**N.O.M. NO. 29 – MOYRUS CEMETERY – CLLR. S. WALSH**

220

The following written reply was given to Councillor S. Walsh:-

"The land to provide an extension to Moyrus Cemetery has been purchased and it will be developed as soon as access to the extension has been secured."

**N.O.M. NO. 30 – ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – CLLR. S. WALSH**

221

The following written reply was given to Councillor S. Walsh:-

"This road has now been repaired."

**N.O.M. NO. 31 – KILCUMMIN CEMETERY – CLLR. S. WALSH**

222

The following written reply was given to Councillor S. Walsh:-

"The Council is currently in negotiations with the adjoining landowner for the purchase of land to provide an extension. Any further progress is dependent on the outcome of these negotiations."

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted Approved + Signed:

Paddy McLoughlin  
Chairman

22<sup>nd</sup> November 1999

Date