

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON 28th FEBRUARY, 2000

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, Senator J. McDonagh, 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, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, L. Kavanagh, & G. McCarthy, S.E.E.'s, J. Collieran, Co. Engineer, M. Jordan, S.O., A. Whelan, C.O., & C. Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY 405

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

Mr. Martin Forde, Kilina, Gort, Co. Galway

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS 406

The Cathaoirleach and Members congratulated Olive Loughnane, daughter of Cllr Loughnane, on qualifying for the 20-km walk at the forthcoming Olympics. On the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham and seconded by Deputy Connaughton the Council agreed that they would send a message of congratulations to the golfer Darren Clarke on winning the World Match Play Tournament.

MINUTES

407

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 20th December 1999 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

Minutes of Special Meeting held on 14th January 2000 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 24th January 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Quinn.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

408

The Report of the Oranmore Area Meeting held on 20th December 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, seconded by Councillor Grealish.

The Report of the Connemara Area Meeting held on 20th December 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta.

The Report of the Tuam Area Meeting held on 20th December 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Deputy Connaughton.

Cllr Joyce requested an amendment to the Report of the Ballinasloe Electoral Area Committee Meeting. He said that the Laurencetown Deputation consisted of two Groups and only one was mentioned. He was advised to raise the matter at the next Area Meeting. The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Meeting held on 20th January 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor O'Sullivan.

Cllr O'Sullivan asked that a letter should be sent to the Minister requesting him to set out the functions of the Council in relation to drainage. Cllr Callanan asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the River Suck. Deputy Connaughton asked how much was being spent on drainage at present and requested that it be put on the agenda for a full Council meeting.

The Report of the Tuam Area Meeting held on 28th January 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor McHugh, seconded by Councillor T. Walsh.

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It was agreed by the Council that item No. 2 (f) should be deferred and dealt with in conjunction with item No. 3.

The Report of the Connemara Area Meeting held on 11th February 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by An Comhairleoir Ni Fhatharta.

The Report of the Tuam Area Meeting held on 21st February 2000 was deferred, to be dealt with in conjunction with Item No. 7.

The Report of the Loughrea Area Meeting held on 20th December 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.

On the proposal of Cllr Loughnane, seconded by Cllr Cunningham it was agreed that the proposed extension of the Portumna Scheme to include Woodpark be sent to the Minister, for Environment and Local Government. The Councillors thanked Galway County Council Officials who were involved.

It was agreed to take item No. 4 next

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT 409 PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA & ENVIRONS IN TOWNLAND OF GORTEENAPHEEBERA PLANNING REF: 99/3075 APPLICANT: STEPHEN O'ROURKE

Councillor Regan declared an interest in this application and left the Meeting.

Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following Report dated 22nd February, 2000 which had been circulated to the Members.

“APPLICANT: Mr Stephen O'Rourke

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: The proposed development is for retention and completion of house no. 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 in the townland of Gorteenapheebera, Loughrea

LOCATION: The site is located in the townland of Gorteenapheebera at the Eastern outskirts of Loughrea Town fronting the N.6 and opposite the G.A.A. grounds.

PLANNING HISTORY: 99/185 – Planning permission granted for 16 no.

dwellinghouses on this site

ASSESSMENT: The site is located within the 40 mph speed limit of Loughrea Town on lands currently zoned for Agricultural use. The Draft Plan for Loughrea shows a residential zoning for the lands. Under planning reference no. 99/185 planning permission was granted for 16 no. dwellinghouses on this site by way of a material contravention resolution. The present proposal relates to 12 no. dwellinghouses and involve minor variations to site dimensions and locations as well as to house design. The proposal is very similar to that already permitted but use of the material contravention procedure is again required as the site is still zoned for agricultural use and the Draft Development Plan has not been adopted. The neighbouring property is listed as a school in item no. 102 of the Sites and Monuments register of the Office of Public Works, but there is no encroachment on that property.

ZONING: The proposed development is on lands zoned for agricultural use, however it is zoned residential in the draft Town Plan.

OBJECTIONS: No objections were received.

RECOMMENDATION

Taking account of the similarity with the previous planning permission granted on the site, a grant of planning permission is recommended.

STATUTORY CONSIDERATION: 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 14th January, 2000 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections. None were submitted.

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 13th March, 2000."

Deputy Ulick Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Stephen O'Rourke for retention and completion of house no. 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 and 16, planning reference no. 99/3075, and having considered the Report dated 22nd February, 2000, 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

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Government Act, 1991, hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor J. Callanan and Councillor M. Cunningham seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON: Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, N. Grealish, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Senator J. Mc Donagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, T. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, S. Walsh & T. Walsh (25)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Chairman declared the Resolution carried.

It was agreed to take item No. 7 next.

DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWN OF TUAM AND ENVIRONS 410

A Report prepared by Mr. G. McCarthy, S.E. Planner, dated 17th December 1999 on the above item together with a copy of the Minutes of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting of 21st February 2000 had been circulated to the Members concerning a request for rezoning submitted by Councillor T. McHugh. Mr. McCarthy went through the Report and recommended no change in the zoning of the lands. It was proposed by Deputy P. Connaughton, seconded by Councillor T. McHugh and agreed that the recommendations of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee to rezone the land from Industrial to Residential be adopted by the Council. The Report of the Tuam Area Meeting held on 21st December 1999 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor T. Walsh.

DRAFT SPC SCHEME 411

A report dated 21st February, 2000 was circulated to each Councillor together with a copy of the Draft SPC Scheme.

The County Secretary outlined the details of the Draft SPC Scheme. He said that the Scheme was in accordance with the Guidelines except that an extra Sector had been added i.e. Gaeltacht/Islands because of the large Gaeltacht/Island population in County Galway. The Council had already decided to have five SPC's and Chairs Designate had been appointed. He said that it was intended to appoint the Chairs Designate to each particular SPC at today's Meeting. He referred to Page 6 of the

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Scheme which sets out the composition of each SPC including Councillors, Town Councillors and External Representatives. Each Council Member would be on an SPC and there would be seventeen external representatives. The sectors to be represented by external representatives was also outlined on Page 6. Seven of the external representatives would be nominated by the National Pillars of Partnership 2000 and the remaining ten would be nominated by Community/Voluntary Groups.

The County Secretary explained that when the Draft Scheme is approved, it has to be advertised and submissions invited from the public. Any submissions must be considered by the Council before the Scheme is finally adopted. After the scheme is adopted, the nomination process for the external representatives will commence.

Cllr McClearn asked if the Community/Voluntary Organisations that registered for representation to nominating sectors for Strategic Policy Committees and County Development Board were notified. Mr Kavanagh said that all the eligible registered groups would be sent a copy of the Draft Scheme. He said that there were 280 groups registered. Cllr O'Foighil asked if there were nominations from Gaeltacht Groups. The County Secretary explained that there will be one representative for the Gaeltacht/Islands and one representative for Culture Sectors on the Cultural and General Services SPC. Cllr T. Mannion asked if the groups were asked to define the area that they represented. The County Secretary said that the groups would be asked to opt for whatever position they were interested in for the purpose of nominating representatives. Cllr Joyce said that there should be a broad representation from the County. Mr Kavanagh said that it was the Councils desire that the nominations should be spread throughout the county.

It was proposed by Cllr Regan, seconded by Cllr Cunningham and agreed that the Draft SPC Scheme be approved.

2 (f) Report of the Meeting of Cathaoirleach and Chairs Designate of SPC's held on 11th February, 2000 was approved by the Council on the proposal of Deputy U. Burke, seconded by Cllr K. Quinn.

It was proposed by Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr J.J. Mannion and agreed that the following Councillors be appointed Chairpersons to the five SPC's.

Cllr J.J. Mannion	- Housing Services SPC
Cllr Connolly	- Roads and Transportation SPC
Cllr Conneely	- Planning and Economic Development SPC
Cllr T. Mannion	- Environmental and Conservation Services SPC
Cllr Gavin	- Cultural and General Services SPC

In reply to a query the County Secretary stated that the guidelines recommend a term of two years for Chairperson's of SPC's but Galway County Council agreed a term of one year at the Council Meeting on Friday, 10th December, 1999.

**TO APPROVE EXTENSION OF TIME FOR REVIEW OF 412
CLIFDEN TOWN PLAN**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely and seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed by the Council to apply for a further extension of time for Review of Clifden Town Development Plan to 30th September 2000.

**CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED FOR 413
DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED
TOWN OF CLIFDEN**

The submissions which were already discussed on 11th February 2000 at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting, no. ' 1 – 15 inclusive were outlined by Mr. Gus McCarthy, Senior Executive Planner, as follows:-

MARY FLYNN, C/O JOHN F. MANNION

Submission Reference Number: 1

LOCATION: *Lands of approximately 3 acres (1.214 hectares), bounded by the town boundary to the north the N59 (Westport Road) to the east, and a minor access road to the south servicing 12 No. existing houses, the GAA sports complex, the Hospital, School and the Western Health Clinic, Clifden Townland, Clifden.*

1992 ZONING: *Agriculture.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.*

- *The proposed access would be off the minor road described above.*
- *The services, both water mains and town sewerage are located within 100 metres of the site.*
- *There is a desirable gradient to the nearest manhole, and the proposed service connection would cause minimum disruption to St. Anne's road.*
- *Lands adjacent to the south are zoned as residential in the draft. However, these lands consist of soft, flat, boggy ground which are not conducive foundations for housing development.*
- *In contrast, the proposed lands have a substratum of rock near the surface and are more amenable to housing development.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Approx. 59 acres of land have been proposed for residential zoning in the 1999 Draft plan in addition to 38 acres of undeveloped residentially owned land. Most of the residentially owned land are in this general location (i.e. North of the town centre) and sufficient lands have been zoned in this area for residential use for the duration of this plan. The lands are in relatively elevated and prominent locations on the main

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Clifden – Westport road, and houses developed would be likely to have a significant visual impact.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 that these lands be rezoned from agricultural to residential.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor O'Neachtain and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

BARBARA SCOTT, C/O JOHN F. MANNION

Submission Reference Number: 2

LOCATION: *Lands of 1.5 acres (0.607 hectares), bounded by the Owenglin River to the south, a minor road and the proposed Industrial zoning to the north (in the Draft), Tullyvoheen, Clifden.*

1992 ZONING: *Agriculture.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.*

- *Services, Water Main and Public Sewer are located 300 metres from the site, therefore connections could be carried out with minimum disruption.*
- *Access to the site is off a minor road, with a road frontage of 110 metres.*
- *The property is sited 800 metres from the town centre on a level site.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands comprise of a relatively narrow strip bounded by the Owenglin river to the south and a minor road to the north. The Owenglin Valley has been identified in the draft plan as a national opportunity to provide a linear park from the town centre to the Clifden Glen area. The zoning of these lands for residential use would result in development overlooking the river and seriously detract from its and cultural amenity for the town.

No change recommended in the proposed zoning of these lands.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

MARY AND JOE KING

Submission Reference Number: 3

LOCATION: Lands of approx. 6.5 acres (approx. 2.63 hectares) directly east of the Ballyconneely road, Springfield, Ardbear, Clifden. (Same as Submission No. 4).

1992 ZONING: Agriculture.

REQUEST: Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.

- To enable the couple to build a house for their retirement.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are located on the Ballyconnelly road outside the existing and proposed development zones and in a relatively elevated and exposed location and their development for residential purposes on a main access and tourist route would detract from the unique scenic setting of Clifden.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 to rezone part of the site, i.e. that part of the lands outlined on map handed in by Councillor J.J. Mannion, the subject of the submission from agricultural to residential.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

PAT GUY

Submission Reference Number: 4

1992 ZONING: Agriculture

LOCATION: Lands of approx. 6.5 acres (approx. 2.63 hectares) directly east of the Ballyconneely road, Springfield, Ardbear, Clifden (Same as Submission No. 3)

REQUEST: Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.

- Mr. Guy hopes to be married in the near future and wishes to build a private home away from his business in the town.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

(Same as Submission No. 3). These lands are located on the Ballyconneely road outside the existing and proposed development zones and in a relatively elevated and exposed location and their development for residential purposes on a main access and tourist route would detract from the unique scenic setting of Clifden.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 to rezone part of the site, that part of the lands outlined on map handed in by Councillor J.J. Mannion, the subject of the submission from agricultural to residential.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor S. O'Neachtain and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

Submission Reference Numbers 5 and 6

JAMES PATRICK O' MALLEY

Submission Reference Number: 5

LOCATION: Lands (0.72 acres or 0.2917 hectares) currently zoned Industrial in the draft, directly east of Hospital road, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.

1992 ZONING: Industrial

REQUEST: Rezoning from Industrial to Residential.

- Mr. O' Malley has a house built in 1980 on these lands.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

A significant area of lands at this location was zoned for industrial use in the Clifden Town plan. The draft plan proposes to change 28 acres of these lands from industrial to residential zoning, providing a total of 94 acres in this general area for residential use. This area is considered sufficient for the term of this plan. In addition it is necessary to retain lands for industrial use in the event that Clifden is successful in attracting development over the period of the next plan.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

MAUREEN KING

Submission Reference Number: 6

LOCATION: Lands (1.028 acres or 0.4163 hectares) currently zoned Industrial in the draft, directly east of Hospital road, directly east of the requested rezoning No.5, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.

1992 ZONING: Industrial

REQUEST: Rezoning from Industrial to Residential.

- Wishes to construct a single dwelling.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

(Same as Sub. Ref. No. 5.) A significant area of lands at this location was zoned for industrial use in the Clifden Town plan. The draft plan proposes to change 28 acres of these lands from industrial to residential zoning, providing a total of 94 acres in this general area for residential use. This area is considered sufficient for the term of this plan. In addition it is necessary to retain lands for industrial use in the event that Clifden is successful in attracting development over the period of the next plan.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 to change all the industrial zoning of 11.52 hectares (which includes submissions no. 's 5 and 6 and part of 12 and 14) to residential zoning and to identify other lands for industrial zoning.

It was proposed by Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor J. Conneely and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

TOM KEARNS, C/O O' RLAIN AND ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS.

Submission Reference Number: 7

LOCATION: Lands (1.028 acres or 0.4163 hectares) bounded by the Sky road to the south, and the Development Boundary to the west, Cloghaunard, Clifden.

1992 ZONING: Agriculture

REQUEST: Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.

- Intends to create an orderly develop 4 No. residential dwellings, this would be in keeping with Section 2.1 of the Development strategy of the plan; 'to formulate a framework for the sustainable development of Clifden permitting expansion to

- occur in an orderly manner, whilst conserving the town's unique character and amenity.'
- It is felt that the rezoning of these lands would greatly reduce the pressure for one-off individual housing in the area.
 - Surface water drainage could be discharged directly to the water course at the eastern end of the site.
 - Due to the scenic nature of the catchment area, it is proposed that that a 'Puraflo' filtration system would be used for foul sewage. This would be installed in addition to a normal septic tank.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are located on the Sky road at the edge of the town boundary and some distance from the existing and proposed development zones. The development of these lands for housing as proposed would be contrary to section 2.12 of the draft plan for the total above and is outside the existing and proposed serviced area in a

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 that these lands be rezoned from agricultural to residential.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

ACTION CONSTRUCTION LTD., C/O SIMON J. KELLY AND PARTNERS, ARCHITECTS.

Submission Reference Number: 8

LOCATION: Lands of 9.9 acres (4 hectares) containing two parcels of land straddling the Dooneen road to the south east of the town, Ardbear, Clifden.

1992 ZONING: Agricultural

REQUEST: Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.

- Client wishes to develop 10 No. dormer bungalows (4 No. to the north of Dooneen road and 6 No. to the south).
- Houses would take cognisance of design guidelines as contained in the County Development Plan.
- Locally sympathetic materials e.g. natural stone slates/ walls would be used as much as possible.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are located on the Dooneen road outside the existing and proposed development zones. The lands are extremely exposed their development for residential use would seriously detract from a scenic unspoilt area.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 that lands outlined on map handed in by Councillor J.J. Mannion would be rezoned from agricultural to residential.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor C. Ni Fhatharta and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

ROCHE FAMILY, C/O NOEL F. HEAVEY AND PARTNERS

Submission Reference Number: 9

LOCATION: *Extensive lands (Approx. 25 acres or 10.1 hectares) directly to the north and north-east of Rock Glen Country House Hotel, bounded by the proposed Commercial zoning (in Draft) to the north, Salt Lake to the east and Ardbear Bay to the South, Ardbear, Clifden.*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential / Tourism to enable the development of Holiday Homes*

- *The Roches intend to develop 2 clusters of holiday homes (approx. 20 No. suites in total), fully serviced by, and in close proximity to the Hotel itself.*
- *The site of the derelict 'Island View House' could accommodate some of the proposed cluster development.*
- *The Hotel needs to expand its accommodation facilities, in response to the intense competition in the hotel industry from throughout Ireland and from Abroad.*
- *The full year opening of the Hotel requires more customers, additional and more varied accommodation, including additional staff accommodation.*
- *Therefore this expansion of the Hotel would be in line with the development plan objective, to counteract the rigid seasonal nature of the tourist industry in Clifden.*

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- *As the three members of the Roche family participate in the business with their parents they are likely to require their houses in the grounds.*
- *Due to the high cost of the proposed development, it would go ahead on a phased basis, and would be low density and delux in character. The initial houses would function as permanent residences and “located and incorporated into the natural environment through good siting and design” as recommended in the development plan.*
- *The development would be accompanied by all relevant technical information including a Visual Impact Assessment.*
- *The cluster housing development could reduce the pressure for one-off housing / ribbon development in the area.*
- *The development would provide some executive housing and would therefore comply with the development plan objective that “The County Council will seek to attract further employment generating activities.”*
- *General access will be enhanced once the development plan objective to “widen and re-align” the Ballyconneely road.*
- *Lands are unsuitable for agricultural purposes.*

ORAL HEARING

In relation to the submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on 19th August, 1999. The following information was made in addition to these submissions.

- *Rock Glen House Hotel need to upgrade and expand their business in order to compete -, incredible increase in standards - now a 4 star hotel going on 5 star. 60% big time golfers.*
- *Looking for group accommodation, comprising of self-catering units.*
- *Business objectives of the Hotel comply with the Development Plan objective to extend the tourist season in Clifden.*
- *Require rezoning to enable the Roches to build a house for themselves and family members, as well as staff accommodation.*
- *2 small clusters to accommodate the hotel expansion, located in dipped unobtrusive locations, to the north of their lands. Expansion would require substantial borrowing.*
- *Maximum no. of houses -10*

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Max. No. 20 Suites

Max No. 2-3 family houses.

OBSERVATIONS

The zoning in this case as clarified at the oral hearing submission is to change the zoning of a considerable portion of the lands to accommodate the housing development for family use, for sale/letting of expansion of the hotel business in the form of self catering units. These lands are located a considerable distance from the town of Clifden in a sensitive landscape overlooking Ardbear bay. While the expansion of the existing hotel business and the accommodation of family members merits consideration, the development of a considerable part of the grounds for residential use even at low densities is not recommended due to;

- The scenic qualities of the landscape in major access tourist route,
- The distance of the lands from the existing and proposed development areas and,
- Distance from services etc.

RECOMMENDATION

Written objective to be included in the Draft plan to allow for expansion of the Hotel business. However, no change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 to rezone from agricultural to residential a reduced area of land as per map handed to Mr. G. McCarthy by Councillor J. Conneely.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor S. Walsh and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

MARTIN COYNE

Submission Reference Number: 10

Total area for rezoning request no. 10 is 30.22 acres or 12.23 hectares.

LOCATION: Lands of (zoned Amenity in draft) bounded by the proposed Communal zoning (in the Draft) to the west and the existing Residential zoning to the south, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.

Map Reference No. : 10A (1.792 acres or 0.725 hectares)

1992 ZONING: Agricultural.

REQUEST: Rezoning from Amenity to Residential.

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- *Mr. Coyne intends to make these lands available for the development of dwellings for his children.*
- *Lands are surrounded by existing housing, so the proposed development would not be incongruous with its surroundings.*

OBSERVATION / RECOMMENDATION

These lands are elevated and exposed and in full view from the main approach road into Clifden and are therefore regarded as unsuitable for residential development.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

LOCATION: *Lands directly east along Hospital road Tullyvoheen, bounded by the proposed Industrial zoning to the north (in the draft), and the proposed Amenity zoning to the south.*

Map Reference No. : *10B (7.081acres or 2.865 hectares).*

1992 ZONING: *Industrial.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Residential to Agricultural.*

- *Mr. Coyne has already received planning permission for an Open Farm development, which will be open to the public as "Clifden Open Farm" in May of next year.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The proposed changing of the zoning of these lands from industrial to residential will not affect a valid planing permission for an open farm development.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

LOCATION: *Lands stradling the proposed zonings (in the Draft from, north to south) of Industrial, Residential and Amenity, north of the N59 (Galway road) and south of the Town Development Boundary.*

Map Reference No. : *10C (21.350 acres or 8.64 hectares).*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural / Industrial / Agricultural.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Industrial / Residential (proposed) / Amenity / Residential (existing) to Agricultural.*

- *Lands are essential to the forthcoming open farm, fields would be used as grazing areas for the animals.*

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- *As these lands are intended for grazing purposes in the long term, they will not be made available for industrial development.*

OBSEVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

(As in 10B). The proposed changing of the zoning of these lands from industrial to residential will not affect a valid planing permission for an open farm development.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendations for 10 (a), 10 (b) and 10 (c) be accepted.

THERESA MITCHELL

Submission Reference Number: 11

LOCATION: *Lands (1.92 acres or 0.777 hectares) directly east along Ballyconneely road, Ardhear, Clifden.*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Agricultural to Residential.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are in an extremely elevated and prominent location on the main Ballyconneely road and their development for housing purposes would seriously detract from the visual amenity of this area.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor S. Walsh and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

CLIFDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, C/O CUNNANE STRATON REYNOLDS

Requests for Map adjustments and Rezoning.

Map Reference No. : 12A

LOCATION: *Lands comprising of the central urban area of Clifden.*

REQUEST: *Relaxed Development Control Standards should be permitted within the Central Area of the town.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Revised standards to be put forward in light of the DoE guidelines on Residential Densities.

It was proposed by Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor J. Conneely and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

Map Reference No. : 12B

LOCATION: *Extensive lands (Approx. 27 acres or 10.9 hectares), proposed as Residential in the draft, bounded to the south and south east by existing Residential and Communal zonings.*

REQUEST: *Comprehensive development proposals should prepare Action Area Plans, within the area outlined.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

It is intended that an Action Area plan will be prepared for the lands pending adoption of proposed residential zoning by the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

Map Reference No. : 12C.

LOCATION: *Lands of approx. 1.6 acres (0.65 hectares), bounded by the Sky road to the north and the Glenowen Orphanage to the east, Clifden.*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural.*

REQUEST: *To Promote Tourism Development at this location.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are located on the Sky road in a relatively scenic unspoilt area outside of the existing and proposed development zones and serviced areas.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 that these lands be rezoned from agricultural to residential.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor S. O'Neachtain and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

Map Reference No.: 12D

LOCATION: *Lands Surrounding the 'Rock Glen House Hotel' Ardbear, Clifden.*

1992 ZONING: *Agriculture.*

REQUEST: *To Promote Tourism Development at this location.*

OBSERVATIONS

(Same as Sub ref. No. 9.) The zoning in this case as clarified at the oral hearing submission is to change the zoning of a considerable portion of the lands to accommodate the housing development for family use, for sale/letting of expansion of the hotel business in the form of self catering units. These lands are located a considerable distance from the town of Clifden in a sensitive landscape overlooking Ardbear bay. While the expansion of the existing hotel business and the accommodation of family members merits consideration, the development of a considerable part of the grounds for residential use even at low densities is not recommended due to;

- *The scenic qualities of the landscape in major access tourist route,*
- *The distance of the lands from the existing and proposed development areas and,*
- *Distance from services etc.*

RECOMMENDATION

Written objective to be included in the Draft plan to allow for expansion of the hotel business. However no change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 to rezone from agricultural to residential a reduced area of land as per map handed to Mr. G. McCarthy by Councillor J. Conneely.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor C. Ni Fhatharta and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

Map Reference No.: 12E

LOCATION: *Development plan boundary line running from north to south, along the south eastern corner of the map, Ardbear, Clifden.*

REQUEST: *Boundary line should be re-aligned so as to include the area marked 12E on the Submissions Map.*

- *This proposed re-alignment will match the development boundary line, as identified by the County Council Planning Register Maps.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Boundary line to be revised to correspond with town boundary as outlined in the 1992 town plan.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

Map Reference No. : 12F

LOCATION: *Lands bounded by Market Street to the North and the Owenglin River estuary to the south, Clifden.*

REQUEST: *Promote High Density Development (Residential / Commercial).*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are proposed for Commercial use which allows for Residential, Retail and Office development. Density provisions for these areas will be dealt with as part of the re-examination of the proposed development standards in the light of the DoE guidelines on Residential density and such revised standards will be brought before the Council following consideration of the other submissions.

It was proposed by Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor J. Conneely and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

Map Reference No. : 12G

LOCATION: *The eastern section of the Owenglin River Estuary, Clifden Bay, Clifden.*

REQUEST: *Evaluate Development Potential for Marina Development.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The potential for the development of the area referred to for a marina merits consideration and could be referred to in the draft plan. However, the determination of the estuaries' suitability for a Marina requires a comprehensive environmental / feasibility study which should be undertaken as a separate exercise from the draft development plan.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

Map Reference No. : 12H

Monthly Meeting – 28/02/2000

LOCATION: *Lands of 0.459 acres (0.185 hectares), bounded by the proposed Commercial zoning (in the Draft) directly to the north and east, and Beach road to the south, Clifden. (Same as Submission No. 13.)*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Amenity to Commercial.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

(Same as Sub. Ref. No. 13) These lands are located on the Beach Road adjoining the Open Space area previously used as the town landfill and now used as a pitch and playground. The Beach road is one of the most valuable amenities in close proximity to the Town centre. The draft plan proposes linking these lands to the town centre via a pedestrian link close to the foreshore as part of the development of a high quality town park at this location.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was recommended at the Connemara Electoral Area Committee Meeting on 11th February 2000 that these lands be rezoned from amenity to commercial.

It was proposed by Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor J. Conneely and agreed that the recommendation of the Connemara Electoral Area Committee be accepted.

LOCATION: *Lands (approx. 1 acre or 0.4047 hectares) west of St. Josephs Industrial School, zoned Commercial in draft, north of the N59 (Galway road), Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : 12I

1992 ZONING: *Communal.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Communal to Residential.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The lands outlined on map as submitted in support of this submission appear to house building associated with the Hospital. Therefore no change is recommended in the zoning of these lands. However, clarification has been sought on this submission to ascertain if the adjoining lands to the north were those on which this submission was intended.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

1992 ZONING: *Commercial*

Monthly Meeting – 28/02/2000

LOCATION: *Lands of 5.39 acres (2.18 hectares), directly east along Hospital road, Tullyvoheen, Clifden. (Incorporating submissions 5, 6, and 14D).*

Map Reference No. : 12J

1992 ZONING: *Industrial.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Industrial to Residential.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

(See 5,6,7 and 14D.) A significant area of lands at this location was zoned for industrial use in the Clifden Town plan. The draft plan proposes to change 28 acres of these lands from industrial to residential zoning, providing a total of 94 acres in this general area for residential use. This area is considered sufficient for the term of this plan. In addition it is necessary to retain lands for industrial use in the event that Clifden is successful in attracting development over the period of the next plan.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

This submission has been dealt with under submissions reference numbers 5 and 6 and agreed by the Council.

LOCATION: *Lands directly east along the N59 (Westport road), zoned Communal in draft, Clifden Townland, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : 12K *(Approx. 4 acres or 1.6 hectares).*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural / Communal.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Communal to Residential.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Planning permission for a housing development appears to have been granted on these lands and therefore a change from Communal to residential is recommended.

It was proposed by Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor J. Conneely and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

LOCATION: *Lands bounded by the Owenglin river to the south, to the rear of Market street, opposite Ardhear Old Bridge, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : 12L

1992 ZONING: *Commercial*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Commercial to Residential.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Commercial area as proposed allows for Residential development as well as Retail and Office and is considered the most appropriate zoning for a Town centre location.

No change recommended to the zoning of these lands.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

LOCATION : *Lands directly south of Racecourse road, zoned Industrial in Draft, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : *12M (8.96 acres or 3.62 hectares).*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural / Industrial.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Agricultural / Industrial to Residential.*

ORAL HEARING

In relation to the submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on 19th August, 1999. The following information was made in addition to these submissions.

- *In the plan the objectives towards the achievement of sustainable development are lacking. For example, the presence of strict engineering standards, these should be relaxed to assist sustainable development.*

Amended Density standards will be forthcoming.

- *CSR feel that the plan doesn't fully exploit the potential for environmental improvements.*

It is recommended that CSR's suggestions which are included in the attachments entitled 'Building Sensitively in the Landscape' and 'Strategic views in and around Clifden' should form as appendices to the development plan.

- *Facilities for tourists not adequately provided eg. public toilets, lay by facilities.*

It is recommended that the provision of such public facilities should become stated objectives in the section on Community facilities.

- *14-15 acres in and around the town could be developed.*

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- This would improve the overall environment and economy of the town, these areas should be given priority over outlying areas.

It is recommended that the promotion of infill development be given a greater priority in the development plan.

- Traffic Management Problem needs to be augmented.

A traffic management plan is to be prepared under the auspices of the Operational Programme for Tourism 1994-1999.

- CSR request that holiday homes which would be integrated with the village. Therefore CSR wish to build an existing fabric, which will inevitably require a relaxation of development standards.

It is recommended that it should be specified that holiday home developments must be integrated with the village both in physical and economic terms. With regard the relaxation of development standards ?

- Other standards which need to be relaxed include, car parking standards, and open space provision within the town. With regard to the latter, there is no reason for the provision of small pockets of open space as Clifden is surrounded by vast amounts of open landscape.

Amended Density standards will be forthcoming.

- Relief road suggestion should be dropped, improvement of the Racecourse road / Hospital road would suffice.
- Plan should be more policy led rather than standard led.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

A significant area of lands at this location was zoned for industrial use in the Clifden Town plan. The draft plan proposes to change 28 acres of these lands from industrial to residential zoning, providing a total of 94 acres in this general area for residential use. This area is considered sufficient for the term of this plan. In addition it is necessary to retain lands for industrial use in the event that Clifden is successful in attracting development over the period of the next plan.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

The rezoning of this overall area from industrial to residential which also included submissions 5 and 6 and part of 14 has been recommended (see submissions 5 & 6)

Map Reference No. : /4/.

AOIFE JOYCE AND MARIE FOYLE

Submission Reference Number: 13

LOCATION: *Lands of 0.459 acres (0.185 hectares), bounded by the proposed Commercial zoning (in the Draft) directly to the north and east, and the Beach road to the south, Clifden. (Same as Submission No. 12H.)*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Amenity to Residential or Commercial*

- *On the 25th of November, 1998 Mrs. Foyle applied for planning permission for two semi-detached houses on the site, the permission was refused on the 15th of January 1999 and is currently under appeal.*
- *Mrs. Joyce is a native of Clifden living in Dublin, who wishes to return there and build a family home.*
- *The joint owner of these lands, Mrs. Marie Foyle also wants to build her family home at this location. Furthermore, the landowners wish to develop adjoining houses on the said lands.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

These lands are located on the Beach Road adjoining the Open Space area previously used as the town landfill and now used as a pitch and playground. The Beach road is one of the most valuable amenities in close proximity to the town centre. The draft plan proposes linking these lands to the town centre via a pedestrian link close to the foreshore as part of the development of a high quality town park at this location.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

This submission had been dealt with under Submission reference no. 12(H) and agreed by the Council.

RODDY AND MEAVE MORAN, C/O TOM HEALY
ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES.

Submission Reference Number: 14

LOCATION: *Extensive lands (approx. 45 acres or 18.2 hectares) bounded by the Town Development Boundary to the north, the N59 (Westport road) to the south, stradling (from north to south) the Draft zonings of Agriculture, Industrial, Proposed Residential, Amenity and Existing Residential, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : 14A.

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1992 ZONINGS: *From North to South. Agricultural / Industrial / Agricultural / Residential.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Agriculture / Industrial and Amenity to Residential.*

- *Lands in question are owned by Meave Moran.*
- *Extensive housing developments were permitted on these lands under Planning Reference No. 15662 – 29th April 1974, and Planning Reference No. 41761- 26th April 1982.*
- *The Moran's have undertaken works to clear the front area of the site and have laid the base for a roadway as required by conditions of the aforementioned Planning Permissions.*
- *A large portion of the Moran's lands are proposed as Industrial in the draft plan. It is felt that this is appropriate as it is unlikely that this amount of land will be required for Industry in Clifden.*
- *It is also likely that the people that provide Industrial development will require it on their own sites, as there is no I.D.A. Industrial Park or anything such proposed in the near future.*
- *The lands in question appear to be a logical extension of the present town for Residential development.*
- *The general level of the land is similar to the levels at the Hospital and over to the Convent, and are therefore suitable for Residential Development.*

LOCATION: *Lands are located within the proposed Residential zoning area of the Draft plan, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : *14B*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Residential to Amenity.*

- *The Moran's feel that the proposed provision of Amenity space in the Draft is excessive, and feel that the suggested provision of the above lands (at 14B) together with the retention of the Amenity zoning at 14C is sufficient for the Recreational purposes of the area..*

LOCATION: *Lands forming part of the proposed Amenity zoning, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : *14C.*

1992 ZONING: *Agricultural.*

REQUEST: *Retention of the Amenity zoning as proposed in the Draft Development Plan.*

LOCATION: *Lands directly east along Hospital road, zoned Industrial in the Draft plan, Tullyvoheen, Clifden.*

Map Reference No. : *14D.*

1992 ZONING: *Industrial.*

REQUEST: *Rezoning from Industrial to Residential.*

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

A considerable portion of these lands were zoned for industrial use in the 1992 plan but a change to residential use in part of these lands is recommended in the draft with the remaining industrial lands left to accommodate future industrial development in Clifden. The industrial lands in these areas are the only undeveloped industrial lands in the town. The area proposed for amenity use is elevated and exposed and in full view from the main approach road to the town and is not deemed suitable for development purposes.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely and seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

BRIAN CALLAGY

Submission Reference Number: 15

LOCATION: *General.*

REQUESTS:

- 1. The plan should have regard to the DoE Guidelines on Residential Density.*
 - The fact that there is an emphasis on qualitative measures rather than quantitative measures for Residential Density, is considered a serious deficiency in the plan. Sections 4.3- 4.6 in the plan do not give maximum permissible Housing Density Ratios, similar to most plans.*
 - The absence figured ratios is not satisfactory for landowners, developers, auctioneers or designers, who need clear, quantifiable standards for decision-making purposes.*
- 2. Maximum Residential Density should be 10%, but may be more where Guidelines permit.*

3. 'Backlands, steep lands, marshland, grass margins' etc. should be acceptable as public open space, where these are satisfactorily landscaped or otherwise retained for ecological reasons.
- In section 4.6 a minimum public open space is stipulated, which excludes 'backlands, steep lands, marshland, grass margins etc'. This is a minimum increase of 50% on the previous plan, and possibly 100% in some cases, if the above mentioned exceptions are included.

OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The Development standards in the draft Clifden plan will be examined in the light of the DOE Guidelines on Residential Densities and revised standards where such are considered appropriate will be put before the Council following consideration of the submission.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the recommendation be accepted.

Mr. G. McCarthy, S.E. Planner said that updated Heritage Survey for Clifden was now available to the Council. It was proposed by Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor J. Conneely and agreed that the buildings identified in the survey be included in the Draft Plan for the Scheduled Town of Clifden.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor J.J. Mannion and agreed that the amendments to the Draft Plan for the Scheduled Town of Clifden as approved by the Council be put on public display.

CONFERENCES

414

On the proposal of Councillor Loughnane, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, 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:-

A.M.A.I. Conference – Castlebar – 11/12th February 2000

Cllr. M. Loughnane	Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. J. McClearn
Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. J. Conneely	

Colmcille Winter School – Letterkenny - 25/27 February 2000

Cllr. M. Regan	Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. T. Rabbitt
Cllr. N. Grealish	Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. T. Walsh

Monthly Meeting – 28/02/2000

Cllr. J. McClearn

L.A.M.A. – Kilkenny – 27/28/29 April 2000

Cllr. M. Regan	Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. J. Callanan
Cllr. M. Fahy	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan	Cllr. T. Mannion
Cllr. J. Joyce	Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	Cllr. M. Connolly
Cllr. T. Rabbitt	Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. S. Walsh
Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. N. Grealish	Cllr. T. McHugh
Cllr. J.J. Mannion	Cllr. T. Walsh	

Assoc. of Health Boards – Westport – 31/3/2000 – 1/4/2000

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan	Cllr. M. Cunningham	Cllr. M. Fahy
Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. T. Mannion	Cllr. J. Joyce
Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	Cllr. S. Walsh	Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. N. Grealish	Cllr. P. O'Foighil	

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

415

The Secretary advised the Members that a copy of the new Register of Electors for each Member had been left in the Party Rooms.

The Secretary reminded the Members that the Council's **Lift Your Litter Campaign** was being launched at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 10th March 2000. The Cathaoirleach referred to the importance of the Litter Campaign and requested the Members' full support.

The Secretary referred to the Council's invitation to David Trimble and Seamus Mallon to address a Meeting of Galway County Council. He stated that replies had been received stating that the invitations could not be accepted as the operation of the Northern Ireland Assembly and other Institutions under the Good Friday Agreement had been suspended. The Members noted the situation.

The Secretary recommended that a Meeting of the Coiste Gaeilge be convened. A Meeting was arranged for 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 8th March 2000.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

416

April Planning Meeting

Cllr Loughnane said that the April Planning Meeting was coinciding with the General Council of County Councils Conference on the 13th, 14th and 15th April. It was agreed by the Council that the Planning Meeting of the 14th April be held on Monday the 10th April, 2000 at 3.00 p.m.

A.T. Cross

Cllr Joyce said that the proposed possible redundancies at A.T. Cross, Ballinasloe were another big loss to the town. He referred to a task force which had been envisaged for the town. Cllr Callanan agreed. He said that the closure affected the town and its environs and he felt that the problem should be discussed at the Ballinasloe Area Meeting next Thursday. Cllr O'Sullivan said that the Tainaiste Mary Harney and Minister Noel Tracy visited the A.T. Cross plant on the 24th February, and that a special inter-agency group was set up to create new industrial jobs in the town. He said that the Group should have been set up before the problem arose. Cllr Hynes said that he hoped that the Government would take a serious view of the job losses in Ballinasloe and that it should be brought to the Taoiseach's attention.

The County Manager said that the job losses at A.T. Cross were regrettable. He said that Deputy Noel Treacy, Minister of State and the Tainiste held discussions with the I.D.A. and A.T. Cross and hope to save 100 jobs at the A.T. Cross plant. He explained that the inter agency group includes representatives from Enterprise Ireland, FAS, the Galway County Enterprise Board, Chamber of Commerce and Declan Nelson, Assistant County Manager is also a member. He said that there was a great challenge facing the inter-agency group and that they were working with the I.D.A. to market and promote the town.

Notices of Motion

Cllr O'Sullivan said that when a notice of motion is submitted, a more explanatory reply should be given if the works specified cannot be carried out. The Cathaoirleach agreed and said that the Councillors had to give a reason to their constituents.

Cllr Regan said swipe cards should be made available for the Councillors to gain access to the offices in Aras an Chontae. The Cathaoirleach said that this would be discussed at the next protocol meeting, and also the question of telephones in the Party Rooms.

Cllr Quinn said that the 8th March is International Womens Day and that the Council should show support for same. Cllrs Hoade and Ni Fatharta agreed.

Councillor Joyce said that the road to the Community School in Clifden was in bad condition and a footpath was required from Clifden to the School. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain supported.

NOTICES OF MOTION

N.O.M. NO. 10 – LIGHTING – DEPUTY BURKE

417

The following written reply was given to Deputy Burke:-

It was not possible to include the above in this year's draft public lighting programme due to the limited funding available."

N.O.M. NO. 11 – ROAD – DEPUTY BURKE 418

The following written reply was given to Deputy Burke:-

"This is approximately a one mile stretch of the N6 and realignment would be a major project. There is no funding available at present to carry out major works. It may be possible to carry out some small scale improvements this year but this will depend on funding."

N.O.M. NO. 12 – ROAD – DEPUTY BURKE 419

The following written reply was given to Deputy Burke:-

"There is no funding available for this project at present."

N.O.M. NO. 13 – WATER SAMPLES – CLLR. J. BURKE 420

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

"In 1998 56 water samples were analysed showing 6 exceedances of the limit of 100 ug/l for trihalomethane (THM) in drinking water.

In 1999, 107 samples were analysed showing 10 exceedances of the limit.

Having examined this issue, a revised sampling and analysis of drinking water supplies will take place in 2000. All public water supplies and some private schemes will be tested at least quarterly to establish fully the extent and level of THMs and this programme has been agreed with the Western Health Board. This more comprehensive programme will establish where the exceedances occur most often and the Council can then target resources to improve the treatment and standards of drinking water in these supplies."

N.O.M. NO. 14 – ROAD REPAIRS – CLLR. J. CONNEELY 421

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"The road is not included for surfacing in the draft roadworks programme for this year. Routine maintenance will be carried out."

N.O.M. NO. 15 – ROAD REPAIRS – CLLR. J. CONNEELY 422

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

"Pothole repairs were carried out two weeks ago. There are no proposals to re-surface this road."

N.O.M. NO. 16 – ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – CLLR. J. CONNEELY 423

The following written reply was given to Councillor Conneely:-

“Routine maintenance will be carried out at this location shortly.”

N.O.M. NO. 17 – ROAD REPAIRS – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 424

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

“This road is included in a list of roads forwarded to the Flood Liaison Committee which is considering roads to be raised because of flooding. Funding for same is to be sought from the Department of the Environment and Local Government.”

N.O.M. NO. 18 – ROAD – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 425

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

“This road is included in a list of roads forwarded to the Flood Liaison Committee which is considering roads to be raised because of flooding. Funding for same is to be sought from the Department of the Environment and Local Government.”

N.O.M. NO. 19 – ROAD – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 426

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

“This problem will be examined with a view to having same resolved by carrying out drainage or raising the road.”

N.O.M. NO. 20 – ROAD – CLLR. M. FAHY 427

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

“There is a five year plan to improve the N67 from Kilcolgan to the County Clare border. The proposed works do not include stone walls. If stone walls were to be provided they would absorb the bulk of the funding and priority has to be given to the roadway.”

N.O.M. NO. 21 – ROAD RESURFACING – CLLR. M. FAHY 428

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

“Lurgaunmore Portumna road is included in the Five Year Roads Plan for improvement in 2001. The Eskerboy road was repaired in 1998 and is considered to be in good condition.”

N.O.M. NO. 22 – WORKS AT KEIGHREY’S LOUGH – 429
CLLR. M. FAHY

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

“It is proposed to erect safety fencing at this location this year. There are no funds available to purchase Coogans old house. The Office of Public Works is investigating the possibility of draining this area.”

N.O.M. NO. 23 – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES – 430
CLLR. N. GREALISH

The following written reply was given to Councillor Grealish:-

“The question of Traffic Calming in the Turloughmore area will be examined by the Road Design section with a view to making improvements.”

N.O.M. NO. 24 – LYDICAN ROAD – CLLR. N. GREALISH 431

The following written reply was given to Councillor Grealish:-

“A survey of the junction will be carried out to determine whether or not a traffic warrant exists for a right turn lane at this location.”

N.O.M. NO. 25 – “TRAYERS BEND” – CLLR. N. 432
GREALISH

The following written reply was given to Councillor Grealish:-

“There are no funds available to carry out this work at present”.

N.O.M. NO. 26 – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES – 433
CLLR. M. HOADE

The following written reply was given to Councillor Hoade:-

“The funding for school flashing lights is very limited and it will not be possible to include Headford National School this year. It will however be considered for future years.”

N.O.M. NO. 27 – SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS – 434
CLLR. M. HOADE

The following written reply was given to Councillor Hoade:-

“This location will be considered when the review of speed limits is carried out later this year. Proposals to alter speed limits on National Roads requires the approval of the National Roads Authority.

A further traffic calming scheme for Clonboo is being evaluated by the Council’s Road Design Team and the National Roads Authority.”

N.O.M. NO. 28 – SCHOOL FLASHING LIGHTS – CLLR. M. HOADE 435

The following written reply was given to Councillor Hoade:-

“There are no funds available to provide flashing lights in this year’s programme. However, statutory signs will be upgraded and appropriate signage on the road will be put in place.”

N.O.M. NO. 29 – ROAD RESURFACING – CLLR. P. HYNES 436

The following written reply was given to Councillor Hynes:-

“This road is not included in the Five Year Roads Plan. It may however be possible to carry out some works this year depending on funds.”

N.O.M. NO. 30 – DEMOUNTABLE DWELLING – CLLR. P. HYNES 437

The following written reply was given to Councillor Hynes:-

“Water and sewerage facilities were provided in this case during 1999. It is proposed to replace an external door and some panels on the demountable dwelling and to paint it externally in approximately 6 weeks time.”

N.O.M. NO. 31 – ROAD RESURFACING – CLLR. P. HYNES 438

The following written reply was given to Councillor Hynes:-

“This road is not included in the Five Year Roads Plan. The estimated cost of remedial work is £4,000.”

N.O.M. NO. 33 – SEWERAGE SCHEME – CLLR. J. JOYCE 439

The following written reply was given to Councillor Joyce:-

Monthly Meeting – 28/02/2000

“The Eyrecourt Sewerage Scheme is currently operating beyond its capacity and any extensions of the collection system could only be accommodated after the upgrading of the Treatment Works”.

N.O.M. NO. 34 – RURAL HOUSE – CLLR. J. JOYCE 440

The following written reply was given to Councillor Joyce:-

“Mr. & Mrs. Winters are tenants of Local Authority house provided by the Ballinasloe Urban District Council. They are applicants to Galway County Council for a rural house which they wish to have erected on family lands.

The family are adequately housed and would not be considered as a priority case for the erection of a rural house.

If they wish to consider other housing options such as the provision of a house for themselves e.g. by way of Shared Ownership or by availing of the Mortgage Allowance Scheme, they should contact the Council’s housing office to discuss these matters.”

N.O.M. NO. 35 - GRAVEYARD – CLLR. J.J. MANNION 441

The following written reply was given to Councillor Mannion:-

“This matter will be considered as part of the burial ground programme as resources permit.”

N.O.M. NO. 36 – TRAFFIC SAFETY – CLLR. J.J. MANNION 442

The following written reply was given to Councillor Mannion:-

“This work is in progress at the moment.”

N.O.M. NO. 37 – WALL REPAIRS – CLLR. J.J. MANNION 443

The following written reply was given to Councillor Mannion:-

“The estimated cost of this work is approximately £100,000. There are no funds available at present to carry out the work.”

N.O.M. NO. 38 – PORTUMNA DUMP – CLLR. J. MCCLEARN 444

The following written reply was given to Councillor McClearn:-

“This landfill is closed for over 16 years and is not being monitored for leachate or other emissions. It is now covered in fresh growth which supports cattle grazing on it from time to time. On visual inspection of the site and surrounding drains, the growth of yellow flags and water grass and the presence of butterflies indicate a healthy environment. Visually the water in the surrounding drains is clean.

Because of the method of filling old landfills, diffusion of gas emissions would have occurred at that time from the site. Gas emissions from the site at this stage are minimal or non-existent and present no problem whatsoever.

The Council has been monitoring the water quality in Lough Derg, some 600m from the site at both the bathing area and the intake for the water works. None of these areas show any deterioration in water quality as a result of what was deposited at the old landfill over sixteen years ago.

As part of the Council’s policy on landfill aftercare and remediation, the Draft Connaught Waste Plan proposes an investigation of historical waste disposal sites to be undertaken in the region. The site is Portumna can be part of this investigation.”

**N.O.M. NO. 39 – ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – SENATOR J. 445
MCDONAGH**

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

“Funding has been allocated for the N84 this year. Negotiations are ongoing with the land owners concerned.”

**N.O.M. NO. 40 – DRAINAGE WORKS – SENATOR J. 446
MCDONAGH**

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

“Funding has been allocated for drainage work in this year’s draft Roadworks Programme”

**N.O.M. NO. 41 – LACKAGH BRIDGE – SENATOR J. 447
MCDONAGH**

The following written reply was given to Senator McDonagh:-

“This matter will be investigated.”

**N.O.M. NO. 42 – DROICHEAD MHUIGHNSE – AN COMH. 448
C. NI FHATHARTA**

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

“Tá obair ar siúl ag an ionad seo faoi láthair ach beidh breis deontais ag teastáil chun an obair a críochnú. Tá iarratas curtha isteach againn don Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta agus Oileán ina leith siúd.”

N.O.M. NO. 43 – BOTHAR – AN COMH. C. 449
NI FHATHARTA

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

“Tá sé ar intinn againn an scriobh seo a chur ar an mbothar, nuair a mbeidh an saghas oibre seo ar siúl so gceantar roimh deire na mbliana.”

N.O.M. NO. 44 – SOLAS POIBLI – AN COMH. C. 450
NI FHATHARTA

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

“Chuireadh ceathre soilsí ar fáil ag an láthair seo le déanaí, agus mar sin níl sé cúrtha san áireamh i gClár Soilsí Poiblí 2000. Cuirfear an láthair seo san áireamh nuair a mbeidh Clár Soilsí 2001 á eagrú.”

N.O.M. NO. 45 – ROAD REPAIRS – CLLR. S. 451
O'NEACTAIN

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

“This road will be repaired as part of the County Road Maintenance Programme.”

N.O.M. NO. 46 – Gceibh I gCILL RONAIN – AN COMH. S. 452
O'NEACTAIN

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

“Tá muid ag breathnú isteach sa gcás seo faoi láthair agus beidh freagra againn le h-aghaidh an chéad cruinniu eile.”

N.O.M. NO. 47 – ROAD REPAIRS – CLLR. S. O'NEACTAIN 453

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

“Extensive repairs have already been carried out on this road following damage caused by house construction. Further repairs will be carried out as funds allow.”

N.O.M. NO. 48 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN 454

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

“The Council would be prepared to put pipes across the road provided the adjoining land owners clean their drains. The pipes would only be effective if the drains are clear.”

N.O.M. NO. 49 – GRASS VERGE – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN 455

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

“It is not proposed to carry out works at this location. However, grass verge will be trimmed on a regular basis.”

N.O.M. NO. 50 – FOOTPATH – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN 456

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

“There are no funds available to provide this footpath at present.”

N.O.M. NO. 51 – FOOTPATH – CLLR. M. REGAN 457

The following written reply was given to Councillor Regan:-

“Footpath repairs will be carried out as funds allow. It was not possible to include Prospect in this year’s draft Public Lighting Programme because of the limited funding available.”

N.O.M. NO. 52 – JUNCTION – CLLR. S. WALSH 458

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

“There are no funds available at present to carry out this work. The improvement of the junction would require land acquisition and removal of part of a farm building. Discussions are on going with the local community in the matter.”

N.O.M. NO. 53 – ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – CLLR. S. WALSH 459

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

“A number of sections of this road have been damaged. These will be repaired as part of the county road maintenance programme.”

N.O.M. NO. 54 – FOOTPATHS/LIGHTING – CLLR. S. WALSH 460

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

Monthly Meeting – 28/02/2000

"An application has been submitted to Department of Arts Heritage Gaeltacht and the Islands for funding for a footpath from the National School to the Camus junction. The other items will be considered for future roadworks programmes."

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

Cathaoirleach:

HLATHAIR FREISIN:

Paddy McLoughlin
Chairman

27th March 2000
Date

Oifigeach: Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Collieran, Co. Engineer, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., J. Eising, A/S.E.E., T. Connell, T. Murphy, A.O.'s, B. McDermott, S.S.O. & C. Mac Aodh Bhm, Oifigeach Gaeltige

Thosaigh na h-ádhmáire leis an paidir.

© SOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

396

Resolutions of Sympathy were passed to:

Mr. Sean Ó Carrain, Deire Lochain, An Spideal, Co. na Gaillimhe
Mrs. Mary Moylan & Family, Lisnagranchy, Ardahan, Co. Galway
Mrs. Mary Agnes Connolly & Family, Raheosgrove, Ardahan, Co. Galway

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 2000

Cathaoirleach:

Cllr. P. McHugh

I LATHAIR 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, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, Senator 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, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., J. Eising, A/S.E.E., T. Connell, T. Murphy, A.O.'s, B. McDermott, S.S.O. & C. Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

396

Resolutions of Sympathy were passed to:

Mr. Sean Ó Carraoin, Doire Lochain, An Spideal, Co. na Gaillimhe
Mrs. Mary Moylan & Family, Lisnagranchy, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
Mrs. Mary Agnes Connolly & Family, Rathcosgrove, Ardrahan, Co. Galway

VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

397

The Members congratulated Deputy Frank Fahy on his recent promotion as Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources.

PRESENTATION ON LOUGH DERG & LOUGH REE CATCHMENT MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM 398

Dr. Alan Barr, Kirk McClure Morton, Consulting Engineers gave a presentation to the Members on the Lough Derg and Lough Ree Catchment Monitoring and Management System Second Interim Report – “Management Measures”.

He said that the system is being developed over a three year period, and scheduled for completion in July 2000. This major catchment- based initiative is in keeping with Government Policy, which envisages a more integrated approach between authorities in promoting water quality management, and in recognising the catchment as the most appropriate basis for developing and implementing water management strategies.

Dr. Barr said that the River Shannon catchment is the largest in Ireland with a land area of 14,700 km² from its source in County Cavan to the Shannon Estuary. Lough Derg and Lough Ree are the two largest lakes on the River Shannon system. The drainage basin of the two lakes, having an area of 10,600 km², constitutes a major part of the overall Shannon catchment.

The Lough Derg and Lough Ree Catchment Monitoring and Management System is sponsored by the Department of the Environment and Local Government and jointly administered by Clare County Council and Roscommon County Council. The European Union Cohesion Fund is providing 85% financial support towards approved costs, currently estimated at £2.3 million. The monitoring and management initiative is being undertaken in conjunction with a major investment programme which will upgrade the sewerage networks and Waste Water Treatment Plants at seventeen of the main population centres within the catchment. Over £48 million has been allocated to the schemes, with 85% financial support provided by the EU Cohesion Fund.

This second Interim Report prepared on behalf of the Lough Derg and Lough Ree Catchment Management Group gives an account of water quality determined during the first year of operation (April 1998 – March 1999) of a co-ordinated river monitoring programme. Most importantly, it undertakes to identify river stretches experiencing the effects of pollution, to catalogue the principal cause in each instance and to propose a range of key management measures which may be implemented by individual Local Authorities and the Environmental Protection Agency in problem areas.

Dr. Barr stated that the Phosphorus Regulations (S.I. No. 258 of 1998) have for the first time established statutory Environmental Quality Standards (EQS's) for Phosphorus, which is the major challenge facing water pollution control agencies in Ireland. Interim targets have been set in order to:

- Avoid any further disimprovement in surface water quality; and,
- Achieve incremental improvements in water quality over a specified period.

The Report identifies a range of sources – sewage, agriculture, peat milling and industry – contributing to the pollution of rivers and lakes in the Lough Derg and Lough Ree catchment. Recommendations are made for improvements at 46 municipal, industrial and peat milling locations. In addition, bye-laws under the Water Pollution Acts are recommended for priority areas (comprising 12% of the catchment) in order to control agricultural pollution. Nutrient Management Planning is also proposed for selected areas. The undertaking of farm surveys and appropriate follow-up action by Local Authorities is recommended for a further 7% of the catchment.

He said that it is envisaged that the evaluations undertaken and management measures proposed will form the basis of the approach to be adopted by the various agencies having responsibility for water quality in the Lough Derg and Lough Ree catchment in response to obligations arising under the Phosphorus Regulations.

Deputy Connaughton expressed concerns about the implications of the various Management proposals on farmers both in REPs and those who are not in REPs. He said that farm inspections are perceived as being a very important management tool for controlling farm-yard pollution. He said that slurry is often perceived to be a waste product but its full potential should be maximised by proper slurry storage and management and he asked for an educational programme for farmers about proper slurry management and phosphorus application rates.

Referring to water pollution, Councillor Regan said that there was a fish kill in Portumna two years ago and there was never a satisfactory reason given for its cause. He asked that the Lough Derg Working Group be reinstated.

Councillor Connolly asked if the level of pollution arising from septic tanks in the catchment area has been investigated by the project and he said that an awareness programme on detergents containing phosphorus would be of benefit.

Councillor Callanan remarked that REPs is having a positive impact on the countryside.

Councillor T. Mannion said that there were areas in east Galway with waterways which could be developed as tourism centres.

Dr. Barr said that Local Authorities have a key role to play in water quality management. He said that 50% of people in the region have septic tanks. He said that detergents will be free of phosphorus within the next two years. He said that water quality management would be an asset to tourism and also to attract people to live in the area.

The County Engineer thanked Dr. Barr for his presentation and informed the Members that the Council are involved in the Western Region Catchment Project

which will deal with water quality in ground water, coastal waters, lakes and rivers in Connacht (excluding the Shannon region).

REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT 399
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS
1994 – TUAM REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME –
EXTENSION TO ATHENRY

A Report dated 4th February 2000 had been circulated to each Member. On the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Deputy Connaughton, the Council approved the extension of the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme to Athenry.

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT 400
PLAN FOR SCHEDULED TOWN OF TUAM & ENVIRONS
IN TOWNLAND OF GLEBE PLANNING REF: 99/3773
APPLICANT: SISTERS OF MERCY WESTERN PROVINCE

Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. outlined the details of the Material Contravention set out in the following report dated 4th February, 2000 which had been circulated to the Members.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Outline permission for the construction of two convent houses in the townland of Glebe, Tuam

PREVIOUS HISTORY Planning Ref. No. 38738 - Sisters of Mercy - grant of permission for dwellinghouse at Glebe on 29/6/1981. (Adjacent site)

LOCATION: The proposed development is located on lands that are at present zoned for community facilities, however in the new Draft Tuam Plan it is proposed that these lands are zoned for commercial factories and residential development is open for consideration. The old community facilities zoning only allow for this in certain circumstances.

ASSESSMENT: The proposed site is located adjacent to the convent and close to a local authority estate on the opposite side of the road where new houses are currently under construction by the County Council. Road Design has no objection to the proposal subject to a shared accessway between the two houses. The site slopes slightly toward the rear. There is an existing gateway into the site and it is surrounded by a high wall to the front. The site area is 0.36 ha. It will be serviced by a public water supply and sewer.

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 13th January, 2000 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 12th March, 2000.

Cllr. Joe Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Sisters of Mercy for planning permission to construct 2 no. convent houses in the townland of Glebe, planning reference no. 99/3773, and having considered the Report dated 4th February, 2000, 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 P Connaughton seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON:

Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O' Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh & T. Walsh (27)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Chairman declared the Resolution carried.

BYE-LAWS FOR LOUGH CORRIB FOR CONTROL OF JET-SKIES AND FAST POWER-BOATS 401

The Report dated 7th February 2000 had been circulated to each Member. Mr. Kavanagh, County Secretary outlined the desirability of introducing bye-laws for the control of jet-skies and fast power-boats on Lough Corrib. He said that it is likely that legislation would be introduced in the near future:

- (a) setting out national requirements dealing with the uses of such craft in the areas of age limits, competence, training, regulation, etc. for operation nationwide and
- (b) enabling local bye-laws to be adopted to regulate the use of fast power-craft.

He said that in anticipation of this legislation it is considered that it would be a good idea to ascertain the views of the public in relation to the use/control of jet-skies and fast power-boats on Lough Corrib and he suggested that a public advertisement be placed inviting submissions from the public on this matter.

Councillor Gavin welcomed the report and referred to the dangers posed by jet-skiers and fast power-boats on Lough Corrib. Councillor O'Neachtain stated that he was surprised that legislation was not already in force in relation to this matter. Councillor S. Walsh suggested that there should be bye-laws to control sewage effluent from cruisers. Councillor Joyce suggested that the bye-laws should cover all lakes in County Galway.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Walsh, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain and agreed that the Council proceed as recommended in the report of the County Secretary.

CONFERENCES

402

On the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor J. Callanan, 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:-

Colmcille Winter School Conference – Letterkenny, Co. Donegal – 25/27 February 2000

Cllr. P. Hynes

Cllr. T. Rabbitt

Cllr. M. Hoade

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

403

The County Manager said that notification of the allocations had been received from the N.R.A. for National Primary and National Secondary routes and from D.O.E.L.G. in respect of Non-National roads in the County. He said that meetings of the Area Committees would have to be held as soon as possible after the 28th February to discuss the Roadworks Programme. Following discussion the following arrangements were made:-

- Loughrea Area Committee Meeting to be held at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday 29th February 2000 in O'Dea's Hotel, Loughrea
- Oranmore Area Committee Meeting to be held at 4.00 p.m. on Monday, 6th March 2000 in Áras an Chontae
- Tuam Area Committee Meeting to be held at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, 28th February 2000 in Áras an Chontae
- Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting to be held at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday 2nd March 2000 in the offices of Ballinasloe U.D.C.

The arrangements for the Connemara Area Committee Meeting to be made at the next Meeting of that Committee being held later that evening.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

404

The Cathaoirleach reminded Members of the County Council Arts Awards function being held on Monday 14th February at 6.30 p.m. in the Town Hall Theatre Galway.

Ballinasloe Swimming Pool

Councillor Joyce referred to the fact that Ballinasloe Swimming Pool was closed due to storm damage. He said that this was most unsatisfactory and that as Ballinasloe Urban District Council did not have a strong financial base to carry out the extensive repairs that were necessary that Galway County Council should give a financial contribution to ensure that the pool is re-opened as soon as possible.

Councillor Callanan said that the Council should make every effort to keep the pool open. Councillor O'Sullivan asked if there was any way the pool could be closed for a matter of weeks rather than months and asked if it was possible to raise a loan in order that the necessary repairs be carried out. Councillor Mullins said that there were many good swimmers in the Ballinasloe area and that it would be a shame if the pool was closed for a long period. Councillor T. Mannion referred to the fact that the rates for using the pool had been increased recently and these rates should be reconsidered.

Mr. Nelson, Assistant County Manager said that a full report was being prepared for the next meeting of Ballinasloe Urban District Council. He said that the pool had been built in the early 1970's and was now in need of major refurbishment.

Waste Management

Councillor Grealish asked if a deputation could come into the Council and make a presentation regarding concerns they have re waste proposals. Following discussion, the County Manager said that the first requirement was to comply with the statutory process whereby submissions can be made up to the 31st March. Mr. Nelson said that it would not be in order to meet one deputation as all other groups should have the same right. It was agreed that any person/group that made a valid written submission, could make an oral submission if they wished at a later date. The County Manager said he would advise the City Manager of the Council's decision.

Road Improvements – Aughrim

Councillor Mullins asked if the County Engineer would meet a group from Aughrim regarding the present position on the road improvements in the area. The County Engineer confirmed that he would meet this group and stated that traffic route lighting

had been ordered and that the new motorway from Dublin to Galway would change the traffic situation in Aughrim as the new route will not be on the existing road.

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON 24th JANUARY, 2000

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

CATHAoirleach: An Cathaoirleach P. McHugh

LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baili

Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Burke, J. Callan, Deputy P. Cosmaughton, Cllrs. J. Connolly, M. Fahy, S. Gannon, J. Harte, M. Loughnana, J.J. Mannion, T. Manning, J. McCleary, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. T. O'Hara, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhaolarta, P. O'Toighilín, Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, S. Walsh &

Submitted, Approved + Signed:

Paddy McHugh
Chairman

Officiant:

27th March 2000
Date

Thosaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

The Chairman requested that the meeting finish at 4.45 p.m. for the Blessing of the Children's Playground in the Lower Yard and the Mass would commence at 5.00 p.m. for our retired and deceased Members and Staff.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

354

A Resolution of Sympathy was passed with the following:-

- Mr. Michael Moylan, Rathcosgrove, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
- Mr. & Mrs. Jarlath Geoghegan, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
- Mr. Jack Higgins & Family, Cregclare, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
- Mr. John Joe Kelly, Stoolpark, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway
- Mrs. Ann Tighe, Bailincurry, Glinsk, Co. Galway