

Monthly Meeting held on 18th December, 2000

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Sen. McDonagh and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendations on submission numbers 2, 3, 14, 15, and 17.

“Michael Finn

Submission reference number: 4

Date received: 3rd March 2000

LOCATION: Along the old Galway/Oranmore road on the seaside of the road.

EXISTING ZONING: Agriculture

REQUEST: Rezoning from Amenity to Commercial use

- Change proposed zoning from Amenity to Commercial use.
- The land has permission for commercial storage and a long history of commercial use. The proposed zoning takes no regard of the existing commercial use of the site. The site consists of a concrete yard and building of 2000sq. ft. on a site of approximately one acre. It contains the remains of an old thatched cottage and a billboard sign.
- Requests change of zoning to maintain the commercial use and a low density residential use and to allow for the change of use of the existing commercial building and restoration of the thatched cottage to use as a restaurant.
- Restoration of the cottage would enhance the area.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

While there may be an established commercial use at this location it is not appropriate to zone a small portion of a larger area zoned Amenity/Environment, to commercial use.

This does not prevent the continued use of the lands for commercial purposes if such uses are authorised.

No change is recommended in the proposed zoning.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Grealish that the land be zoned commercial. The Cathaoirleach indicated that a vote would have to be taken.

*In favour; Cllr. M. Connolly, Cllr. J. Conneely, Cllr. N. Grealish, Cllr. M. Hoade
Cllr. P. Hynes, Cllr. T. Mannion, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllr. T. McHugh
Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta, Cllr. T. Rabbitt, Cllr. S. Walsh*

The result of the vote was 11 in favour, nil against.

“William B. Glynn, Solicitors, Long Walk, Galway.

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Submission reference number: 5

Date received: 3rd March 2000

LOCATION: Field of approximately 10 acres (4.047 hectares) to the south of the railway line and to the east of the Oranmore/Claregalway road and adjoining the proposed Business and Technology Retail Park.

REQUEST: Rezoning from Agriculture to Business Technology and Retail Park use.

- Land is located between the dual carriageway, the main Oranmore/Claregalway road and the existing railway line and abuts lands zoned 'BTP'.
- Land is of little agricultural value and no beneficial use.
- Only a section of the site is liable to flooding.

OBSERVATIONS/RECCOMENDATIONS:

Approximately 46 hectares (114 acres) of land are proposed for use as a Business Technology and Retail Park. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for such development over the period of the plan. The land in question is identified as part of the system of wetland areas in Oranmore and is designated as a proposed candidate Special Area of Conservation.

No change is recommended in the zoning of these lands".

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

"Donall Dooley, Kilcaimin, Maree, Oranmore.

Submission reference number: 6

Date received: 3rd March 2000

Oral Hearing Request.

LOCATION: Lands at Oranbeg/Oranmore, along the N6 National Primary route (Dublin Road)

REQUEST: Rezoning from agricultural to residential use

- Twelve statute acres.
- Land is adjacent to Oranmore village.
- Land has road frontage adjacent to the main roundabout.
- Land would contribute to and enhance the village.

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ORAL HEARING

In relation to submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on the 5th May, 2000, the following information was in addition to the written submission.

- Lands could connect to the existing residential zoned lands across the road via an underpass.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The lands in question are located outside the proposed village boundary, and therefore do not merit consideration in this plan. There are adequate lands zoned for residential use within the village boundary over the period of this plan.

No change is recommended in the zoning of these lands”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Rabbitt, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Oran Pre-Cast Ltd, Deerpark Industrial Estate, Oranmore.

Submission reference number: 7

Date received: 3rd March 2000.

Oral Hearing Request.

LOCATION: Lands at Glenascaul, Oranmore.

REQUEST: Re-zone lands from Agricultural to Industrial use.

- Adjoining lands have been developed for industrial units.
- Re-zoning would enhance the already developed industrial scheme in place.

ORAL HEARING

In relation to the submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on the 5th May 2000. No further information was advanced.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

These lands are located outside the village boundary and therefore do not merit consideration in this plan.

No zoning change is recommended for these lands”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Helen & Matthew Clarke, Glenascaul, Oranmore.

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Submission reference number: 8

Date received: 2nd March 2000.

LOCATION: Industrial zoned lands located to the north of Oranmore.

REQUEST:

- The boundary between all existing and future industrial or business parks and the surrounding residential and agricultural areas should be softened.
- There are problems of excessive dust from the industrial area of Deerpark and noise arising from HGVs at night and other all night industrial activity.
- The West side of the Oranmore/Claregalway road has become unsightly and cluttered. The nature of activities carried out devalue the residential value of property and reduce the quality of life for nearby residents.
- A belt of tall thick fast growing evergreen trees, 20 trees deep, encircled by a high block wall of suitable finish to be placed on the Glenascaul side of the Deerpark industrial estate.
- A lighter belt of trees and a wall should be placed along the main road.
- Screening should be placed around the industrial areas on the east side of the main road.
- There have been problems with flooding in the Glenascaul area. Drainage systems in the area have been affected by developments and it is important to preserve and repair these natural drainage systems. Close liaison between Galway County Council and local people is required.
- Construction of a footpath from the roundabout at the Quality Hotel to the entrance to Glenascaul village.
- The 30 mph speed limit for Oranmore should be extended northwards towards Carnmore to 100 yards beyond Ciaran Moran Car Sales.
- Any development of the industrial zoned lands at Deerpark should be restricted to Offices, Software Development and Data Processing type industries given its proximity to the Glenascaul residential area.
- Industry should play its part as good corporate citizens by preserving the amenity value of the area.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that objectives for landscaping the perimeter of industrial lands be included in the plan.

All new development will require detailed proposals for planting, screening and landscaping.

Detailed drainage plans will be required for any development proposals in the wetland areas identified in the plan.

It is not proposed to construct a path along the main road to Glenascaul, part of this area is outside the plan boundaries and therefore cannot be considered for inclusion in this plan. The relocation of the speed limit is outside the plan boundaries also.

A matrix of uses permitted in each zoned area will be included in the plan. The industrial zone will provide for industrial, light industrial, warehousing and distribution uses, while

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the Business Technology and Retail Park will accommodate business and high technological uses”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Sen. McDonagh, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Wolverlife Investments Ltd., c/o Patrick H. Flood & Co. Civil Engineer

Submission Reference number: 9 & 9A

Date received: 3rd and 6th March 2000.

LOCATION: Industrial lands measuring 0.666 hectares (1.65 acres) and 3.757 hectares (9.28 acres) respectively, located between the railway line, the Galway road and the Claregalway road, adjacent to the Quality Hotel.

EXISTING ZONING: Industrial use

REQUEST: Rezone from Industrial use to Business Technology & Retail Park (BTP).

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approximately 46 hectares (114 acres) of land are proposed for use as a Business Technology and Retail Park. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for such development over the period of the plan”.

No change is recommended in the zoning of these lands.

“Michael Carr, Gortard, Clarinbridge

Submission reference number: 36

Date received: 17th July 00

LOCATION: Industrial lands measuring 0.184 hectares, located between the railway line, the Galway road and the Oranmore/Claregalway road, in close proximity to the Quality Hotel.

EXISTING ZONING: Industrial use

REQUEST: Rezone from industrial use to Business, Technology & Retail use.

- The existing zoning is very restricted and only allows for industrial, light industrial, warehousing and distribution uses. BTRP use would allow for Business, Offices and high technology uses.
- There is a serious shortage of sites for such use in Oranmore. There is considerable commercial development in operation in existing residential areas. This indicates the lack of suitable land available for the commercial expansion of the village core.

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- The relocation of a limited amount of commercial and service activity would enhance the development of the village core and would relieve traffic congestion.
- There is a serious shortage of parking in the village core. The proposed site contains 20 car spaces and has easy and convenient access.
- If the proposed waste transfer station goes ahead in the area proposed for BTRP use, the area will not be attractive for new businesses and will not develop into a modern Business Park.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approximately 46 hectares (114 acres) of land are proposed for use as a Business Technology and Retail Park. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for such development over the period of the plan.

To provide necessary additional office space it is recommended that the Industrial Land Use Zone Category (p28 Draft Oranmore Plan) which reads: 'I – Industrial: To provide for industrial, light industrial, warehousing and distribution uses', be amended to read as follows:

'I – Industrial: To provide for industrial, light industrial, warehousing and distribution uses. Limited office uses which do not detract from the role of the village centre as the primary commercial area within Oranmore will be considered on lands between the railwayline, the Dual Carriageway and the Oranmore/Claregalway Road (N18)'.

It was proposed by Sen. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Grealish to accept the area committee recommendation that the lands between the Old Galway Road, the railway line and the N18 be zoned "to provide for industrial, light industrial, warehousing, distribution uses and office uses. The Cathaoirleach indicated that a vote would have to be taken.

*In favour; Cllr. Connolly, Cllr. Conneely, Cllr. Grealish, Cllr. Hoade, Cllr. Hynes
Cllr. Mannion, Senator McDonagh, Cllr. Ni Fhatharta, Cllr. Rabbitt*

The result of the vote was 9 in favour, nil against.

“Michael & Monica Conneely, Maree Rd. Oranhill, Oranmore.

Submission reference number: 10

Date received: 3rd March 2000.

LOCATION: Oranhill

REQUEST:

- Proposal for walkway/trail from Maree road through private lands at Oranhill infringes on the privacy of nearby residential property (Fig. 6.2;G1).
- No consultation took place, a line was drawn though peoples property without any consideration given to the landowners or residents of the area.

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- There are no proposals in the plan to maintain and repair the existing public footpath along the Maree road which is a valuable facility.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is an objective of the Council to develop a network of amenity trails and walkways in and around Oranmore. The proposed walkways on private lands will be subject to the landowners approval and consent and will be located so as not to interfere with residential amenity. The existing public footpath network is the subject of ongoing maintenance and improvements by the Roads Section of Galway County Council”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Grealish, and agreed to accept the planning consultant’s recommendation.

“Padraic Keane

Submission reference number: 11

Date received: 2nd March 2000.

LOCATION: South of Oranmore Village along the Maree Road.

REQUEST:

- A section of the proposed walkway (fig.6.2;G1) is through the private property of Mr. Keane and people will only be allowed on the property subject to the permission of the landowner.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is an objective of the Council to develop a network of amenity trails and walkways in and around Oranmore. The proposed walkways on private lands will be subject to the landowners approval and consent”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Sen. McDonagh, and agreed to accept the planning consultant’s recommendation.

“Margaret Trayers, Renville, Oranmore.

Submission reference number: 12

Date received: 1st March 2000.

LOCATION: Oranhill and the Old Graveyard.

REQUESTS:

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- Proposal to maintain the summit of the hilltop at Oranhill free from development would devalue the land.
- Proposals for walkways through the land would interfere with the family farm, with a pure bred dairy herd and flock of pedigree sheep.
- There are lots of alternatives in the area for walking such as Renville park, the smaller roads around the village and a coast road.
- The old Cemetery should be improved and cleaned up.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is an objective of the plan to maintain the summit of Oranhill free from development in the interests of visual Amenity, this is considered a reasonable objective. This is the one of the higher points in Oranmore village and should be kept as an open space.

It is an objective of the Council to develop a network of amenity trails and walkways in and around Oranmore. The proposed walkways on private lands will be subject to the landowners approval and consent and will be located so as not to interfere with residential amenity”.

It is an objective of the plan to clean up and maintain the Old Graveyard.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Grealish, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Leonie King, Oranmore Castle.

Submission reference number: 13

Date received: 28th February 2000

LOCATION: General

REQUEST:

- Proper landscaping should be implemented around each individual industrial building.
- A three tiered planting system of shrubs, fast growing conifers and native deciduous species would be a huge visual improvement to what is essentially the gateway to the City and would help protect local residents from air pollution, giving industry a chance to put something back into their environment.
- Nuns lands on the North side of the castle road should be kept ad infinitum, as a green belt.
- The integrity of the castle would be undermined if houses are built on these lands.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

All new development will require detailed proposals for planting, screening and landscaping.

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The lands located north of the castle road are zoned for Amenity – Civic and Recreational use which will provide for civic and recreational open space and limited ancillary facilities. Other lands are zoned Amenity – Environment with the objective along the coastline to develop a village park”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Grealish, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Carmel Burke, “Carraig Ban”, Oranhill, Oranmore.

Submission reference number: 16

Date received: 2nd March 2000.

LOCATION: General

REQUEST:

- Proposals to develop a walkway/trail is a grossly insensitive proposal. The proposal will cut through backyards. Landowners have a basic right to retain their lands for their sole use.
- There are already amenity lands in the Renville/Maree Road area i.e. Renville park and the Sli Na Slainte walkway from Oranmore Village, some of the family land and a right of way was given up to facilitate the development of Renville Park.
- County Council resources should be spent on upgrading and maintaining the footpath from the village to the Park and controlling the litter problem.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is an objective of the Council to develop a network of amenity trails and walkways in Oranmore. The proposed walkways on private lands will be subject to the landowners approval and consent and will be located so as not to interfere with residential amenity. The existing public footpath network is the subject of ongoing maintenance and improvements by the Roads Section of Galway County Council”.

It was proposed by Sen. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Grealish, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“John & Angela Grealy, “Zephyr Lodge”, Maree Road, Oranmore.

Submission reference number: 18

Date received: 1st March 2000.

LOCATION: General

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REQUEST:

- The proposed walks/trails would be detrimental to landowners.
- The walk starting from the Maree road would be hazardous for pedestrians.
- The walk then passes through our garden and into a hollow which is frequently waterlogged and on towards the hill through private property.
- Proposal is a gross invasion of privacy.
- Designation would constitute an encumbrance on our property and would have a detrimental effect on the value of the land were it to be sold.
- No consideration has been given to the litter problem or insurance against accident or property damage.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is an objective of the Council to develop a network of amenity trails and walkways in Oranmore. The proposed walkways on private lands will be subject to the landowners approval and consent and will be located so as not to interfere with the amenities of the residents”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

***“O’Grady Construction (Gort) Ltd. c/o Brian Callagy and Associates,
Planning Consultants.***

Submission reference number: 19

Date received: 28th January 2000.

LOCATION : 1.8 hectares (4.45 acres) of land located south west of Oranmore Village.

EXISTING ZONING: Amenity

REQUEST: Rezone from Agriculture/Amenity use to Residential use 1.8ha.

- Housing development proposed on the adjacent lands required relocation of 16 houses north-westwards to accommodate the route of the Oranmore sewer.
- Had the sewer been designed at right angles to the main axis of the site and to a steeper gradient there would have been no need to encroach on the Amenity zoned area.
- The design engineers were constrained to maintain the line at an angle because of critical gradients and the developer sought and obtained permission from Duchas to allow development on this piece of land.
- Following discovery of a Neolithic site on the route of the sewer, the Council moved the line of the sewer slightly to the Northwest. The developer agreed to move the layout to the north-west to include an area of 0.5ha to accommodate the County Council.

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- The site which was purchased in 1996 was zoned residential in the then County Development Plan. The rezoning to Agriculture/Amenity use in the current 1997 County Development Plan has had a significant negative impact on the economic development of the site.
- The Developer hopes that his co-operation with the Council throughout the entire period will be taken into consideration in respect of the above request.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Lands which are the subject of this submission were zoned for Amenity use in the 1997 County Development Plan and the amenity zoning in this area corresponded with the proposed candidate Special Area of Conservation boundary. Following correspondence between Duchas and the landowner the proposed candidate Special Area of Conservation boundary was relocated to facilitate housing development. However the housing development (ref: 98/3471) partly encroached on an area comprising 0.5 hectares which is still within the proposed candidate Special Area of Conservation.

There is no objection to relocating the amenity zoning boundary to coincide with the amended proposed candidate Special Area of Conservation boundary.

It is recommended that 1.3 hectares be rezoned for residential use. No change is recommended in the zoning of the remaining 0.5 hectares”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Grealish, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Western Regional Fisheries Board.

Submission reference number: 21

Date received: 3rd February 2000.

LOCATION: The Oranmore River.

REQUEST:

- The Oranmore River supports stocks of brown trout, sea trout, eel and stickleback and flounder. Resident and migratory fish population can be best protected by strict control of discharges to waters.
- Storm outfalls to the river should be avoided as far as is practicable and should never be located immediately upstream of established spawning zones and should always be fitted with grit traps and oil interceptors.
- As the River is fed from groundwater, a groundwater protection plan should be formulated for the Oranmore River catchment.
- Ongoing development of industrial zones within the greater Oranmore area should not impact on water quality.

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- Works affecting the Oranmore River and the sea pool should include rehabilitation of the area affected. There is scope for instream habitat enhancement features and armouring and enhancement of the existing sea pool downstream of the bridge.
- There is considerable scope for ecologically sensitive tree planting in the riparian zone.
- The following clause should be included: *It is the policy of the Council to co-operate with the Western Regional Fisheries Board with regard to conservation, protection, enhancement and sustainable development of the fishery resources of the area.*

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the above clause be incorporated into the Draft development plan. It is an objective of the Draft plan to provide a linear park along the river. It is the policy of the planning Authority to prevent the alteration of natural drainage system and in the case of development works, require the provision of acceptable mitigation measures to minimise negative impacts to water quality.

Specific policies and objectives to ensure the protection of the river as a habitat for brown trout etc. can be included in the plan.

Individual planning applications shall be accompanied by details of surface water disposal”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Sen. McDonagh, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Gerry & Margaret McNulty, Galway Bay Health Farm, c/o JP McHugh & Co. Architects.

Submission reference number: 22

Date received: 4th February 2000.

LOCATION: Lands measuring 10.583 hectares (26.15 acres) at ***Renville*** West

EXISTING ZONING: Agriculture and Residential.

REQUEST: Rezone from Amenity-Environment use (A2) to Residential use.

- The current zoning in the County Development Plan is for residential use and the draft plan, which proposes Amenity zoning, should be amended to revert the land to residential use.
- Outline Planning Permission was granted for a housing development on this land in 1996 (ref: 96/1571).
- Residential zoned lands should be extended to incorporate additional lands in the clients ownership as the area is now an established residential area.

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- The Oranmore sewerage scheme should be extended to service these residential lands and the general and existing and proposed residential development in the area.
- The clients presently unserviced residential zoned lands should be permitted to make appropriate connection to the new sewerage scheme.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Part of the lands have been granted Outline Planning Permission for 4 cottages each on a site of 1 acre with a frontage of 37 meters onto the public road or the access road. This permission is still valid.

Approximately 87 hectares (216 acres) of land in Oranmore is developable and zoned for residential use in the Draft plan. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for the design population of 5000 as set out in the County Development Plan.

It is considered that the proposed amenity zoning is appropriate as part of the lands are designated as a proposed Special Area of Conservation. Part of the land is also indicated in the Draft plan as a wetland area to be retained and preserved. The land is in close proximity to the coastline and is considered an area of high visual and environmental amenity thus requiring protection.

No change is recommended in the zoning of these lands”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Rabbitt, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“O’Connor, Keogh & Mulcaire Architects.

Submission reference number: 23

Date received: 4th February 2000.

LOCATION: Land measuring 0.673 hectares (1.66 acres) to the rear of Main St. and South of Millplot.

EXISTING ZONING: Amenity.

REQUEST: Rezone from Amenity-Environment (A2) to Commercial/Office use

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This land is located to the rear of Main Street, it is currently zoned Amenity. Adjacent land to the south and west is proposed for Village centre zoning. The land in question is proposed as a candidate Special Area of Conservation.

No change is recommended in the zoning of these lands”.

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It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

***“Martin Burke, James Fahy, Gerry Gunnane, c/o John M. Gallagher,
Engineering Consultant.***

Submission reference number: 24

Date Received: 2nd February 2000.

LOCATION: Lands at Gurraun South, South of the railway line, East of the Garaun road and North of the old Galway/Oranmore road measuring 18 hectares (44.5 acres).

EXISTING ZONING: Agriculture

REQUEST: Rezone 18 hectares (44.5 acres) from Amenity –Greenbelt (A1) use to Residential use.

- Lands are in the ownership of Mr. Burke (15 acres), Mr. Fahy (22.5 acres) and Mr. Gunnane (7 acres) and are located within the development boundary for Oranmore Village.
- Lands are serviced land with an adequate supply of water, with access to the Oranmore sewerage scheme and within the natural western boundary of the developed area defined by the Garraun road and as such are suitable for immediate or future residential use.
- Lands have solid foundation underlain by limestone and is suitable for housing and other development. The topography of the lands is conducive to their development for residential purposes.
- The sewer to the pumping station has been laid at a level suitable to service these lands.
- It is feasible to dispose surface water directly or via a combination of sumps and discharge to Oranmore Bay.
- The lands are closer to the centre of the village commercial zone than those which have been zoned to the south east of the village. Their inclusion would lead to a more balanced development of the village within easy access of the city and of the industrial and business areas of Oranmore and would reduce the traffic volumes passing through the village centre.
- Lands to the west of the Garraun Road which are low lying and the Garraun Road form more of a natural Amenity/Green Belt separation area than the lands proposed in the plan.

Individual submissions were received from the three landowners on the 31st January 2000 concerning the rezoning of the land in question.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

There are approximately 87 hectares (216 acres) of potential developable land zoned for residential purposes in the Draft plan. This excludes proposed candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Natural Heritage Areas, Special Protection Areas and zoned residential

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lands which have already been developed. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for the design population of 5000 as set out in the County Development Plan. The proposed Greenbelt area is required to maintain a clear identity for the village and will act as a buffer zone between the village and the Galway City environs. This zoning objective will have regard to the final strategy of the Galway Transportation and Planning Study.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands”.

It was proposed by Sen. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Coffey Construction

Submission reference number: 25

Date received: 3rd February 2000.

LOCATION: Lands of 24.28 hectares (60 acres) at Rocklands, Oranmore.

REQUEST: Zone lands for Business, Technology and Retail park.

- Site would be designed to a high standard to attract IT industry.
- Part of the site near the N18 could be reserved for a Hotel development.
- The site is large scale and is strategically located at the junction of three primary routes and is within walking distance of the village core. The village centre which is the only area of zoned commercial land could not cater for the traffic generated by a large Hotel.
- Development of this land would reduce urban sprawl and would take advantage of the available services and infrastructure.
- Site is no longer earmarked by Duchas for special designation or National Heritage area as agreed with Duchas.
- The possible location of Oranmore for an Airport would be attractive to companies locating in the Business Park.
- The 1997 draft Action Plan for Oranmore referred in section 5.4 to the extension of the commercial zone immediately east of the village into large open sites on the Dublin road, the lands proposed comply with this requirement.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approximately 46 hectares (114 acres) of land are proposed for use as a Business Technology and Retail Park in the Draft Oranmore plan. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for such development over the period of the plan. The lands in question are outside the village boundary as identified in the Draft plan and any such development would be considered premature. Part of the lands are designated as a proposed Candidate Special Area of Conservation.

No change is recommended.

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It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Sen. McDonagh, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Thomas Flynn, Tom Corbett, Gerry Moylan, Alfie O’Halloran.

Submission reference number: 26

Date received: 19 January 2000.

LOCATION: Land measuring 1.69 hectares (4.2 acres) at junction of the Old Limerick Road and the bypass road.

EXISTING ZONING: Residential

REQUEST:

- The land is zoned residential, however a large portion of the site is earmarked in the Oranmore objectives map (fig 6.2) for the establishment of a village park and landscaping programme.
- Such a strategic site should be developed to a high standard and it is an inappropriate location for a village park and landscaping programme.
- The amenity requirements for this side of the village can be easily met by the development of other less strategic sites for such purposes.
- The site is now serviced with the new sewer laid as far as this property.
- The site is high enough to avoid flooding.
- The site is adjacent to a major traffic route and will not have a detrimental effect on the existing traffic situation in the village.
- The bypass road has divided these lands and lands to the east of the bypass, the proposed park would further devalue the lands.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is an objective of Galway County Council to reserve an area along the western boundary of the by-pass between the Dublin Road and the old Limerick Road to act as a necessary buffer between the road and lands zoned for housing. The land in question will provide a buffer area and will be part of a linear park and incorporated into an open space plan for development.

No change is recommended

It was proposed by Sen. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

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*“Diarmuid Herlihy,
Architecture, Design and Project Management Group Ltd..*

Submission reference number: 27

Oral Hearing Request.

LOCATION: Lands to the West of Oranmore Village comprising 5.26 hectares (13 acres).

EXISTING ZONING: Amenity

REQUEST: Rezoning from Amenity Environment-A2 to use for tourism orientated residential holiday/recreational activity.

- Land use would include Seashore walkways.
- Development would be restricted to single and two storey development.
- Foreshore would be restricted from development.
- Development would be based on ‘Clochan’ style development.

ORAL HEARING

In relation to the submissions received, an oral hearing took place on 17th May, 2000. The following information was in addition to the written submission.

The landowner is Mr Noel Kelly. Houses would be to a high standard of design and would be part of a detailed action plan for the area.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

There are approximately 87 hectares (216 acres) of potential developable land zoned for residential purposes in the Draft plan. This excludes proposed candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Natural Heritage Areas, Special Protection Areas and zoned residential lands which have already been developed. These lands are deemed to be sufficient to cater for the design population of 5000 as set out in the County Development Plan.

It is considered that the proposed amenity zoning is appropriate as the lands are designated as a proposed Special Area of Conservation. The land is in close proximity to the coastline and is considered an area of high visual and environmental amenity thus requiring protection.

No change recommended in the zoning of these lands”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant’s recommendation.

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*"John Grealy, Kieran Furey, Eamon Hynes, W.J Burke c/o "Shraduff",
Maree Rd., Oranmore.*

Submission reference number: 28

Oral Hearing Request.

LOCATION: Old Graveyard, Oranmore.

REQUEST:

- That the County Council clean Graveyard, secure perimeter walls and restore proper access.
- The Graveyard should not be open for public use, an alternative site for a park should be chosen.
- No pedestrian link should be allowed through the Old Graveyard.
- The graveyard should be preserved as a place of historic and antiquarian interest
- Proposals would leave the graveyard open to vandalism.

ORAL HEARING

In relation to the submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on the 5th May 2000.

The following information was in addition to these submissions.

The boundary of the Graveyard as mapped in the zoning plan is not accurate. There is no place in the Graveyard for the provision of footpaths without interfering with gravestones.

No public access through the graveyard to other areas should be allowed.

Claim that this is a Natural Heritage area.

The graveyard should not be used to access other areas.

Clarification is required with regard to C1 identified on the map.

OBSEVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is proposed that the old Graveyard would be cleaned, boundary walls repaired and the area maintained and kept open for members of the public to visit relative's graves. Rather than becoming a 'pocket park', it will be similar to a garden of remembrance.

The area is not designated as an Natural Heritage Area.

The Objectives map will be amended to show C1".

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Gerry Glynn, District Manager, Iarnrod Eireann.

Submission reference number: 29

Oral Hearing Request.

LOCATION: Along railway line.

EXISTING ZONING: Industrial

REQUEST:

- Iarnrod Eireann are exploring the possibility of relocating their freight handling activities away from Ceannt Station in Galway city.
- Oranmore is considered a suitable location given its proximity to the major roads network.
- A site with 300metres railway frontage and c.150 metres in depth from the railway line would be required.

ORAL HEARING:

In relation to the submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on the 5th May 2000. The following information was in addition to these submissions.

The site zoned in the Draft plan for a Park and Ride facility has been identified by Iarnrod Eireann as the optimum location for their future freight handling facilities. It is considered an ideal location by reason of its easy accessibility along National Routes, proximity to the railway line, gradient of the track and size and configuration of the site. Iarnrod Eireann propose to relocate from Eyre Square.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

As planning permission has been granted on lands across the road from this site for a multi-storey carpark and given the suitability of this location it is recommended that an objective be included to incorporate provision for Freight Depot facilities on this site”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Grealish, and agreed to accept the planning consultant’s recommendation.

“Martin Burke

Submission reference number: 30

Oral Hearing Request.

LOCATION: Land at Gurrán, Oranmore.

REQUEST: To retain Agricultural zoning of lands measuring 6.07 hectares (15 acres).

- Proposed zoning is for Amenity - Green Belt A(1).

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ORAL HEARING

In relation to the submissions received, an Oral Hearing took place on the 5th May 2000.

An earlier submission (no. 24) was made requesting rezoning to Residential use, landowner requests retention of the Agricultural status of the land. This is a family farm and the proposed zoning will affect any future development on the landholding.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The proposed Greenbelt area is required to maintain a clear identity for the village and will act as a buffer zone between the village and the Galway City environs. This zoning objective will have regard to the final strategy of the Galway Transportation and Planning Study.

No change is recommended in the zoning of these lands”.

Cllr. Rabbitt stated that it was his recollection that the decision of the area committee in relation to the zoning of these lands was that the agricultural zoning be retained. It was felt that this was not entirely apparent from the minutes of the area meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Grealish that the lands the subject of submission No. 30 be zoned agricultural. The Cathaoirleach indicated that a vote would have to be taken.

In favour: Cllr Connolly, Cllr Conneely, Cllr Grealish, Cllr. Hoade, Cllr. Hynes, Cllr T. Mannion, Sen. McDonagh, Cllr T. McHugh, Cllr . Ni Fatharta Cllr. Rabbitt.

The result of the vote was 10 in favour, nil against.

“Cunnane Stratton Reynolds, Planning Consultants.

Submission reference number: 31

Oral Hearing Request: Could not attend.

Location: General.

Request:

- The Ardaun Corridor adjoins the zoned lands to the north of Oranmore village, the plan does not acknowledge the potential impact this will have as the development of both areas will create a large settlement surrounding the Northern and Eastern shore of Oranmore Bay

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- The designation of the Ardaun Corridor as a primary development centre with a wide range of land uses should be addressed in the development plan process
- The plan underestimates the development needs of Oranmore, it should fully reassess the development needs of the village and the surrounding area for residential, commercial and recreational needs.
- Adopt the objectives of the Retail Planning Guidelines 1999 in guiding future retail development.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Galway Transportation and Land Use Study has not been adopted.

The design population for Oranmore as set out in the County Development Plan is 5000 for the next five years, the Draft plan has been prepared taking into account this figure.

Future retail development will be subject to the provisions of the Retail Planning Guidelines 1999”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Department Of Defence

Submission reference number: 32

Date received: 17 January 2000.

LOCATION: Rifle range, north of Oranmore.

REQUEST:

- The Rifle range is the primary range and training area for military personnel and is in constant use throughout the year. It is not disused as stated in the draft plan.
- The training area cannot be re-configured to accommodate any proposed development due to danger area templates relating to the ranges which are an indispensable element of the overall facility.
- Until the Council has alternative proposals to develop facilities, the Dept. Of Defence will object to any proposed alternative use of the rifle range.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The plan will be amended in light of the fact that the rifle range is in constant use”.

It was proposed by Sen. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Rabbitt, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Western Health Board.

Submission reference number: 33

Date received: 7th December 1999.

LOCATION: General.

REQUEST:

- A site will be required for a new purpose built Health Centre of approximately 1000 square metres with adequate off street parking and convenient to existing and future housing developments.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Adequate lands have been zoned in the village for Community Facilities. These lands are located close to the village centre and in close proximity to existing and future housing development”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Grealish, seconded by Cllr. Rabbitt, and agreed to accept the planning consultant’s recommendation.

“Peter Lyons, c/o VCL Consultants, Drogheda.

Submission reference number: 34

Date received: 3rd March 2000.

LOCATION: Land measuring 0.352 hectares (0.87 acres) bounded by the bypass, the Frenchfort river and adjacent to proposed Business, Technology & Retail Park.

EXISTING ZONING: Agriculture

REQUEST 1: Rezone from Agricultural use to Business, Technology & Retail Park use.

- Subject land is unsuitable for development given its proximity to the National Route and given the level of the land.
- It is suitable for inclusion in the open space requirement of the Business and Technological Retail Park.

REQUEST 2:

- The relocation of the entrance into the existing Westlink Commercial park at Oranmore from the Claregalway road to the Roundabout.
- The relocation will facilitate the closure of a problematic access and contribute to the safe operation of the Oranmore roundabout.
- The existing entrance restricts the development and intended use of the land, recent planning applications have been refused on the basis of the hazards created by anticipated increased traffic.

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- The proposal will facilitate the orderly development of the remaining zoned and serviced lands in the applicants ownership, in an area experiencing significant development pressures.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. This parcel of land is part of a proposed Candidate Special Area of Conservation and is adjacent to the Frenchfort stream. Approximately 46 hectares (114 acres) of land are proposed for use as a Business and Technological Retail Park. These lands are deemed sufficient to cater for such development over the period of the plan. No change is recommended in the zoning of this land.

2. The proposed relocation of the entrance into the existing Westlink Commercial Park does not come within the remit of this plan. Such proposals are subject to planning permission. Assessment of the proposal will be carried out in consultation with the Roads Department of Galway County Council having regard to traffic safety issues”.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. M. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

“Department Of the Environment

Submission reference number: 35

Date received: 5th July 2000.

LOCATION: General

REQUEST:

- The objectives map key (fig. 6.2) indicates an amenity objective A5 to protect sites, buildings and items of archaeological and historical interest, however the location of these have not been shown on the plan.
- The NHA at Bellanbradaun Stream shown on the environmental parameters map has been zoned residential.
- While there is an objective to keep Oranhill hilltop free from development, it has been zoned for residential use.
- There is no zoning matrix and no indication of what uses are permitted in each zone
- Under the provisions of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998, objectives must be included in development plans, for the provision of accommodation for travellers and the use of particular areas for that purpose. None have been included in this plan.

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OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The plan will be amended to include the location of these sites

The lands at Bellanabradaun Stream and Oranhill hilltop have already been zoned for residential use in the 1997 County Development Plan and are therefore zoned residential in the Draft Plan. However objectives as set out in the Draft plan must be taken into consideration in dealing with development proposals on these lands.

A matrix of permitted uses, non-permitted uses and uses which are open to consideration will be included in the plan.

The provisions of the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 will be addressed in the Development Plan”.

It was proposed by Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, and agreed to accept the planning consultant's recommendation.

The County Secretary informed the members that as all of the submissions together with the reports and recommendations had been considered, the next step in the procedure was to put the amendments to the Draft Plan on public display for a period of one month.

It was agreed that the material alterations to the Draft Plan be put on public display.

CONFERENCES

876

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

Waste Management Workshop - Dublin - 18th/19th October, 2000

Cllr. Paddy McHugh

“Planning for Irish Wind Energy” - Brandon Hotel, Tralee Co. Kerry - 16th /17th November, 2000

Cllr. Paddy McHugh

Partnership and Participation - Greshem, Dublin - 22nd November, 2000.

Cllr. Paddy McHugh

Waste Management Workshop - Hudson Bay Hotel, Athlone – 12th December, 2000

Cllr. Paddy McHugh

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 12 – WATER – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 877

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:

"A Regional Water Supply Scheme for Gort is included on the Water Services Investment Programme 2000 – 2002 as a scheme to Commence Planning. The current position is that the consultants are conducting a review of the Preliminary Report and have indicated that they will submit a report to Galway County Council by next month".

N.O.M. NO. 13 – LIGHTING – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 878

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:

"This location will be considered when next year's public lighting programme is being prepared."

N.O.M. NO. 14 – BRIDGE – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 879

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:

"This bridge serves private property and is not in charge of the Council."

N.O.M. NO. 15 – ROAD – CLLR. M. FAHY 880

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:

"Improvement works were carried out to this road in the current year. It is hoped that further funding can be provided for 2001".

N.O.M. NO. 16 – SIGNS – CLLR. M. FAHY 881

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:

"This item will be added to the Agenda for the Loughrea Electoral Area Meeting."

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N.O.M. NO. 17 – WATER SUPPLY – CLLR. M. FAHY **882**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:

"The consultants are currently examining a proposal to extend the water supply from Oranmore to Clarinbridge. This would leave Kilcolgan with an additional source of supply from its existing source. This is subject to approval of funding by the Department of the Environment and Local Government".

N.O.M. NO. 18 – FOOTPATH – CLLR. M. HOADE **883**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Hoade:

"This work will be considered when the roadworks programme for 2001 is being prepared."

N.O.M. NO. 19 – FLOODING – CLLR. M. HOADE **884**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Hoade:

"Remedial works were carried out to alleviate this flooding. The situation will continue to be monitored"

N.O.M. NO. 20 – ROADS – CLLR. M. HOADE **885**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Hoade:

"Increased funding has been sought from the National Roads Authority for both the N84 at Corrandulla and National Secondary routes in general."

N.O.M. NO. 21 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. J.J. MANNION **886**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Mannion:

"Funding has been provided under the 2001 Small Schemes Improvements Programme for works to alleviate the problems with the sewerage overflows at Roundstone Harbour".

N.O.M. NO. 22 – SIGNS – SEN. J. MCDONAGH **887**

The following reply was given to Senator McDonagh:

"The signs have been ordered and will be erected as soon as they are delivered."

N.O.M. NO. 23 – TELECOM POLE – SEN. J. MCDONAGH 888

The following reply was given to Senator McDonagh:

"A quotation for removal of this pole has been requested from Telecom Eireann."

N.O.M. NO. 24 – ROAD – SEN. J. MCDONAGH 889

The following reply was given to Senator McDonagh:

"When a National or Regional road is realigned the section of the existing road which remains reverts to being a local/county road."

N.O.M. NO. 25 – REILIG – COMH. C. NÍ FHATHARTA 890

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta:

"Réiteofar an fadhb seo go luath san athbhlian. Táimid ag plé le úinéir talún, mar gheall ar an dtreo a thaoscfar an t-uisce."

N.O.M. NO. 26 – DROICHID – COMH. C. NÍ FHATHARTA 891

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta:

"Scrúdófar na droichid seo agus beidh freagra ar fáil go gairid."

N.O.M. NO. 27 – BÓTHAR – COMH. C. NÍ FHATHARTA 892

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta:

"Déanfar obair fheabhasúcháin ar an gcasadh seo go luath i 2001."

**N.O.M. NO. 28 – HEDGE CUTTING –
COMH. S. O' NEACHTAIN 893**

The following reply was given to Senator McDonagh:

"This location will be dealt with early in the new year when hedge cutting commences again."

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N.O.M. NO. 29 – BÓTHAR – COMH. S. O' NEACHTAIN 894

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

"Níl an obair críochnaithe fós ag an áit seo. Táimid ag súil go mbeidh sé críochnaithe go luath i 2001."

N.O.M. NO. 30 – ROADS – CLLR. S. O' NEACHTAIN 895

The following reply was given to Cllr. O' Neachtain:

"This road is included for restoration work in the roadworks programme for 2001. The necessary work will be carried out then."

N.O.M. NO. 31 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN 896

The following reply was given to Cllr. O' Sullivan:

"Our Overseer called to Mr. Larkin and discussed the matter with him. There is no flooding on the road at Ardranney."

N.O.M. NO. 32 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN 897

The following reply was given to Cllr. O' Sullivan:

"The flooding in question is caused by run-off from the adjoining lands and is not as a result of any road works done by Galway County Council."

**N.O.M. NO. 33 – DANGEROUS BENDS
CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN 898**

The following reply was given to Cllr. O' Sullivan:

"This is a county road and there is a ninety degree bend at Kingstown. Major realignment would be required involving a by-pass if this bend were to be straightened. There are no funds available to carry out this work at present as funds for county roads are limited."

Submitted, Approved & Signed

Connie Ní Phaláirta

26/2/01

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF ADJOURNED ESTIMATES MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, 2000.

Cathaoirleach: An Comhairleor C. Ni Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Bail: Cllr. J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllr. M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, P. McHugh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, S. Walsh and T. Walsh

Oifigigh: Messrs. D.O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh Acting Asst. Co. Manager, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, R.C. Killeen, Acting Deputy Co. Engineer, C. Mac hAoda Bhui, Irish Officer & M. Power, S.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

863

Resolutions of Sympathy to the following:

Mr. & Mrs. Terry Noone, Church St. Ballinasloe
Mr. Peter Moylan, Curragh, Aughrim, Ballinasloe
Martin & Mary Biggins, Beaghmore, Belclare, Tuam.

ESTIMATES 2001

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The Cathaoirleach, complimented the Manager, the Finance Officer and all staff involved in the excellent presentation of the Estimates. Stating that a protocol had been set by Members at the previous Estimates Meeting that 5 minutes would be allowed per person to comment on the Estimates, she then invited Councillors comments.

Each of the Councillors in turn complimented the Manager and Finance Officer on the excellent presentation of the Estimates. They expressed concern at the rate increase at 9% being greater than inflation and felt that the whole Valuation system was an actual

disincentive to improvement in small businesses. They felt that they should have more input by being able to allocate funding from their Notice of Motion monies for both Public Lighting and to supplement Local Improvement Schemes. One of their biggest concerns was the ability to deliver services due to staffing shortages and they were concerned that highly qualified staff were being lost to the private sector.

Cllr. Mullins welcomed most aspects of the Estimates, the construction of 178 houses was very welcome but alarm would have to be expressed at the number of persons on the housing waiting list which stood at 1,678 at present. Demountable Dwellings should be phased out as soon as possible and no individual should be expected to pay rent for them. Disabled Persons Grant should be increased and the Tenant Participation in Housing Estate Management he felt should be extended to all housing estates to instill pride of place in all Co. Co. areas. He welcomed the very ambitious National Road Improvement Plan to 2006 but considered £27,000 allocated for Minor Urban Roads in the Ballinasloe area to be totally insufficient. Provision for Water and Sewerage is very significant and he welcomed the proposed sewerage scheme for Kilconnell. The appointment of an architect to examine the existing Library Building in Ballinasloe is most welcome but he expressed concern at the lack of a swimming pool in the Ballinasloe area at the present time. The introduction of the Intranet/Extranet and the launching of The Council's Website on the Internet are to be welcomed and he felt with these IT developments we should be able to cut down on paper and thus enhance our recycling efforts.

Cllr. Hynes stated that the Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme - Ext. to Craughwell was progressing but in view of the fact that people in East Loughrea are now looking for connection to the Loughrea Regional Scheme, 2006 is too far away. As house purchase was totally out of reach for a vast number of people he considered that the provision for Rural Houses should be doubled. He would like to see the Essential Repairs Grant increased from £6,000 to £10,000 and the Disabled Persons Grant up to £20,000. As the County Council are now purchasing Loughrea Town Hall he is looking forward to it becoming a multi-purpose Cultural Centre for this area and hopes that pending a decision of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation a swimming pool will be provided in Loughrea.

Cllr. Connolly would welcome the fast tracking of the provision of Rural Housing as individuals had land themselves for this purpose. Funding for the Joint Drainage Committee and indeed all funding for drainage was totally inadequate. In Ballygar during the year the community themselves had to get involved in order to redress problems specific to their area. The funding allocated for Water & Sewerage he felt was most welcome and he felt the County Council had an excellent record in this area. He felt the sewerage needs for rural towns should be fast tracked as planning etc. was totally held up. In relation to Water he felt that every household in the County had a right to proper quality of water. The present Group Water Supply Schemes are not adequate and this stunts growth in rural areas. As there are no plans for a Regional Scheme in the Milltown area problems would need to be addressed in the interim.

Cllr. J. Burke suggested that on page 3 where the Estimated Revenue Income for 2001 is detailed he would consider it useful to show the previous years figures also for comparative purposes. He considered our efforts in relation to recycling to date to be very mediocre and it should receive priority now. The quality of Housing in the County is excellent, and he welcomed the increase in the Arts Grants up to £90,000 and requested funding for the maintenance of Tuam library. More money should be allocated to Pollution Control and he considered that we should use the law to the full. He questioned whether we are getting value for our £160,000 contribution to CAMP. Overall he considered that while he was going to vote for the Estimates that it was difficult to vote for a 9% increase in rates.

Cllr. T. McHugh felt that ratable valuations were more appropriate to Dublin than to Rural Ireland and a person's ability to pay should be taken into consideration and audited accounts for businesses should be inspected. The biggest problem in relation to Housing was that there was an increased number of people who were unable to provide for themselves. The assessment of Housing Needs identified an additional 700 applicants between 1999 and 2000 alone. He considered the Governments attitude to the Affordable Housing Scheme to be very haphazard and the cost of acquiring sites was going to make this scheme unaffordable. He considered that the stipulation in the Local Government Planning and Development Act, 2000 that a planning application for a housing development is now current for 2 years only is totally impractical. He felt that the Co. Development Plan should be revisited, as prices for sites on all sides of the County were excessive mainly due to fact that supply was not meeting demand.

Cllr. O Neachtain stated that £70m was a very big proposed increase in expenditure. He considered that rural local government should be allowed to spend what we collect locally as in other E.U. countries. The percentage being allocated to us through the Local Government Fund was quite low. He welcomed the new Turn Key scheme in Housing, considered that good progress was being made in the taking in charge of 40 Group Water Supply Schemes and the allocation of £88,000 towards the provision of new Public Lighting. He welcomed funding provided by the Department of Arts, Heritage Gaeltacht and the Islands and the Department of the Marine and stated that the provision of matching funding showed that there was good cooperation between the Council and Government Departments.

Cllr. S. Breathnach wished to pursue the matter in relation to payment of the Fire Retainer Fee in respect of Kilonan Fire Brigade. While their situation is unique he felt they should be equally entitled to payment of this fee. He felt that there should be consultation between the Area Engineers and the Councillors with regard to the provision of Public Lighting in each area and Notice of Motion monies should be increased, particularly for the purpose of the maintenance of roads. He stated that roads in Connemara that would not be included in the Roads Programme can be in such disrepair that it could take up to £20,000 to repair them. He expressed admiration for the new Turn Key Housing development and considered that the quality of housing generally was excellent but that the Voluntary Housing Scheme should be widened out to encompass Rural Housing. Increased sewerage services are required in the Carraroe and Oughterard

areas and he considered that there were many ineffective septic tanks in certain areas. A pilot scheme should be introduced in local areas whereby grants would be given to install puraflo systems. This could assist greatly in the quality of water, would be good for the Environment generally and greatly assist in the preservation of Special Areas of Conservation.

Cllr. T. Walsh stated that in this Tiger Economy he represented people who were not all doing well. He felt the 9% increase in rates was difficult to justify when people's means were not taken into consideration. In the Glenamaddy area improvement in water quality was urgent. He welcomed the previous provision of a Reservoir but more needs to be done. He stated that there were numerous problems in Williamstown in relation to planning all because there was an inadequate water supply. He felt that if we were not able to improve things in times of plenty that we will never do it. Verge cutting he felt was not done in time last year; it should be done as soon as it is needed.

Cllr. McClearn stated it was apparent from the Estimates that the Council were achieving value for money and he appreciated the effort being made by staff. He felt that the rate increase of 9% was too high and with the water charges increase being 5% that there was a big anomaly between the two. He welcomed the initiatives in relation to housing but felt that we are not keeping pace with demand. The lapse between the reporting of a housing maintenance problem and the completion of the necessary works was too long. He stated that there was a certain category of elderly person who was not being dealt with, as they did not qualify for either the Essential Repairs Grant or the Disabled Persons Grant and this should be looked at. The Water and Sewerage Scheme programme was welcomed and in relation to road improvements he felt that we were moving away from private contractors and going back to purchasing our own machinery etc. Contractors were anxious about this and care should be taken, as they may not be available when we need them in the future. He felt in relation to valuations that Dublin 4 criteria are being applied to rural Co. Galway.

Cllr. Loughnane felt that good results were being obtained for the money being spent. He commented on the good report given by the Auditor and felt that it was highly deserved by the Council. He proposed that the spending of some of the monies on Public Lighting should be determined by the Councillors and recommended a figure of £1,500 per Councillor. He felt computerisation in all its aspects was to be welcomed, and encouraged Councillors to use conference money for computerisation. He felt more of an effort should be made to encourage the public to segregate waste. He stated it would be a pity if industrial waste could not be disposed of in our own County and it is not satisfactory to have to send such waste to Kildare while at the same time facilitating the disposal of domestic waste from Galway City. He stated that the provision of water was inadequate and at one point during the year Kilrickle had no supply. Also, as many as 400,000 people in Ireland were victims of polluted water during the year.

The Cathaoirleach thanked everyone for their comments and again complimented the Manager, Finance Officer and Staff for the preparation of the Estimates. She congratulated Declan Meehan who is an employee of Galway Co.Co. and a member of

the Galway Football Team on receiving an Eircom All Star Award. All Councillors present reiterated this. The Cathaoirleach then invited Mr. E. Lusby, Finance Officer and Mr. D. O' Donoghue, Co. Manager to reply to the comments made by the Councillors.

Mr. E. Lusby thanked everyone for their comments and said that it was a pleasure when money is available to prepare an Estimates of Expenses which was the most developmental in the County in quite some time. Expenditure on Revenue Account next year is to be £70m. Despite the increase in the Local Government Fund it is accepted that we could still do with more money, we will never provide all the services or the level of services demanded but the best service can only be provided by maximising income. He agreed that the 9% increase in rates is higher than the current inflation rate but added that the increase does not compare too unfavourably to previous years when money was not quite so plentiful the rate increase was in the range of 5%-6%. He also explained that since 1997 the percentage increase in Local Government Funding has been 112% versus a rate increase of 24%. Overall spending in the County will be up 20% and this can be compared to a 9% increase in rates. He added that all points raised had been noted. He concluded by strongly recommending the adoption of the Estimates as presented.

Mr. D. O'Donoghue thanked the members for their constructive comments and emphasised that the preparation and adoption of the Estimates was a two way process and feedback was important. He said that pride should be expressed in the Needs and Resources Study as designed by our own staff and which the Minister for the Environment has used in allocating Local Government Funding. He stated that £125m will be spent within the County in 2001 and £20m of this will be spent on payroll alone, contributing significantly to the overall economy of the County. He brought the members attention to increases in staffing as outlined on page 90 of the Estimates. It is the intention to increase permanent staff and the Dept., of Environment has approved many posts at senior level. There will be a finance function position post at Assistant County Manager level, plus the appointment of a Financial Accountant and a Management Accountant. There will be an increased emphasis on costing of services and obtaining value for money. The Manager will be supported by 7 Directors of Services in all at the level of Assistant County Manager. The Agresso system which entails a change to modern accounting systems is being progressed by the employment of 7 additional staff for a period of one and half years. In relation to Housing the Manager stressed that use was being made of every initiative possible to fulfil our needs and cited the new Turn Key Housing scheme where we invite private sector involvement. He advised that participation in Voluntary Housing should be encouraged and considerable monies were being allocated for the planned housing maintenance programme. Seminars are to be held in the New Year throughout the County to advise people on all available initiatives. Solid progress was being made in relation to national and non-national roads and increased grants were expected in 2001. He explained that an organisational review is underway in the Planning and Housing Sections with a view to preparing a Business Plan in these sections. The manager complimented Cllr. T. Mannion in relation to his involvement with the Waste Management SPC who had one meeting last week and were to have a further meeting on the 14th of December in relation to coming to agreement on the Regional Plan. The Manager also stated that a plan in relation to recycling has been

adopted by the members and that progress is being made in relation to new libraries being opened in Loughrea, Oranmore and Carraroe. The Manager concluded by recommending the adoption of the Estimates as presented.

There were a number of proposals to amend the Estimates as follows: -

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Loughnane and seconded by Cllr. S. Walsh and agreed that in relation to the fund for new Public lights each Member be allowed to nominate the location for new lights to a value of £1,500.

Cllr. M. Loughnane proposed, seconded by Cllr. J. Callanan that Members Notice of Motion Fund be increased when the Roadworks scheme was being prepared.

Cllr. M. Loughnane proposed an amendment to the Estimates as presented, by the transfer of £20,000 from Programme 8.12 to 8.11.2. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Callanan and agreed.

On the proposition of Cllr. M. Connolly seconded by Cllr. S. Gavin the creation of the posts of Director of Services (5), Head of Finance (1), Financial Accountant (1), Management Accountant (1), and Head of Information Systems (1) was approved.

Adoption of Estimate of Expenses for year 2001

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. J. Callanan and resolved:-

That Galway County Council hereby adopt the Estimate of Expenses as amended for the Financial year ending 31/12/2001 and as set out in Tables A,B and D as amended of the said Estimates.

Determination of the Rate in the Pound

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. S. O'Neachtain and resolved:- That Galway County Council hereby determine in accordance with the Estimate of Expenses for the Financial year ending 31/12/2001 as adopted, the rates as set out in Table B and Table D as amended for the financial year ending 31/12/2001.

Demand on Ballinasloe Urban District Council

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. P. McDonagh and resolved:- That the statutory demand on the Ballinasloe UDC for year ending 31/12/2001 be signed and sealed.

Estimated expenditure and income outturn for 2000

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Loughnane , seconded by Cllr. M. Fahy, the Council noted and approved the estimated expenditure and outturn figures for 2000 as set out in the Book of Estimates.

The Cathaoirleach requested that nominees would be selected for the Loughrea and Oranmore electoral areas for the meeting with the Corporation, Cllr. J. McClearn was selected for the Loughrea area, proposed by Deputy U. Burke and seconded by Cllr. M Cunningham. The Oranmore nominee to be determined at a later date.

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, approved & signed

Connie Ni Phatharta

30th May, 2001
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2000

Cathaoirleach

An Comhairleoir C. Ni Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Callanan, 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, Cllrs. T. McHugh, M. Mullins, P. O Foighil, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, T. Walsh & S. Walsh

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, T. Murphy, A.O., E. Moloney, A/A.O., E. Keaveney, A/A.O, Cuimin Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge,

Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

Speed Limit Signs - Bullaun

Cllr. Loughnane said that he been approached by the Board of Management of Bullaun National School regarding the speed limits in the village. He proposed that the 40 mile speed limit be moved back closer to the bridge which is on a reasonable straight stretch of road and approximately 300 meters from the school. This proposal was seconded by Deputy Burke and agreed to be considered in the current speed limit review.

Town Renewal Scheme

Cllr. McClearn asked why it was not possible to build an extension to a house of 900 square feet in accordance with the Town Renewal Scheme and he wanted to know the reason for this. The County Secretary said that he would have the matter examined.

County Manager said that the Council were drawing up guidelines to assist property owners in the five designated towns.

Accident Black Spot - Lydon's Knockdoe

Senator McDonagh asked the County Engineer to investigate the accident incidence at Lydon's Knockdoe with a view to improving the situation at this dangerous junction.

Asylum Seekers

Referring to the proposal to use Mosney to accommodate asylum seekers Cllr. Regan asked that the Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform would defer taking a final decision on this matter until the concerns of the Community Games organisation had been met.

Funding for National Secondary Roads

It was proposed by Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed that the Council invite Mr. Michael Tobin of the N.R.A. to a Council meeting to discuss funding for national secondary roads.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

829

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mrs. Maureen Flynn, Barnaderg, Tuam, Co. Galway.

Mrs. Anna agus Micheál Conghaile, Baile an Mhúir, Inis Meain.

Mr. Jimmy Carrick & Family, Cloonoran, Moylough.

Mrs. Helen Curley & Family, Bridge Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

Mr. Michael Murphy, Deerpark, Athenry.

Mrs. Jean O'Dea, No. 60 Newbury Road, Bromley, Kent, BR. OQ W, England.

CONFERENCES

830

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

"Partnership in a sustainable Future" - Waterford - 10th - 11th November, 2000

Deputy P. Connaughton.

Energy from Fresh Air – Planning for Irish Wind Energy – Tralee, Co. Kerry – 16/17th November, 2000

Cllr. P. McHugh

"A new voice for Communities" - Gresham Hotel, Dublin on Wednesday 22nd November, 2000

Cllr. M. Fahy	Cllr. N. Grealish	Cllr. M. Cunningham
Senator J. McDonagh	Cllr. J. Callanan	Cllr. T. McHugh
Cllr. M. Regan	Cllr. K. Quinn	Cllr. T. Walsh
Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. J. Conneely
Cllr. J. McClearn		

Inaugural Training Forum - Carlow - 30th November, 2000.

Cllr. S. O' Neachtain. Deputy Connaughton Cllr. P. McHugh

Credel Workshop - Maynooth, Co. Kildare – 15th December, 2000.

Cllr. T. Walsh	Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. S. Walsh
Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. M. Hoade	Cllr. K. Quinn
Cllr. M. Regan	Cllr. M. Loughnane	

Recycling and Waste Management – Cork – 1st December, 2000

Cllr. J. McClearn	Cllr. T. Walsh	Cllr. N. Grealish
Cllr. S. Walsh	Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. K. Quinn
Cllr. M. Regan		

Recycling and Waste Management - Dublin – 7th December, 2000

Cllr. P. O Foighil	Cllr. N. Grealish	Cllr. M. Connolly
Cllr. K. Quinn	Cllr. M. Regan	

Monthly Meeting held on 27th November 2000

GROUP	ADDRESS	PROJECT	AMOUNT £
Abbey Community Dev Association	Conicare, Abbey	Continuation of conservation & protection of natural amenities	750
Abbeyknockmoy Development Co Ltd	Newtown	To make Moore Church (14th century) safe	1250
Aughrim Development Company Ltd	Aughrim P.O.	General enchancement of Village & environs	1250
Ballygar Community Development Group	Ballygar	Development of town & district of Ballygar	1000
Belclare Sports Field Committee	Claretuam	Development of playing area/facilities & picnic area at Belclare Sports Field	500
Caheristrane - Headford Development	The Square	Upgrade St. Georges Square car park, provide seating on civic walk, millennium tree & shrub planting	1000
Caltra Community Council	The Creek, Caltra	Completion of weigh bridge, tree planting etc	750
Castleblakeney Church Restoration	Callagh, Castleblakeney	Internal restoration of Church, biocycle unit, beechlined avenue	1750
Claregalway Amenity Group	Cregboy	Erection of "Welcome/Fáilte Stone signs & 3-6 concrete tubs to enhance Village	1000
Cleggan Claddaghduff Community Council	Cleggan	Provision of safe ramp access to both Aughrimore Beach & Omev Strand	750
Clifden Chamber of Commerce	Market Hill,	Sea & Cliff walk & provision of diving board & recreational area	750
Clonberne Community Development	"Hillcrest", Clonberne	Lay new surface to community centre car park	1000
Clonfert Development Group	Clonfert	Restore old Pound & create an amenity area with picnic area & erect piece of sculpture	1000
Clonberne Heritage Project	Ballinasloe	To publish history of the Parish	1000
Coiste Forbartha An Mhama	Tir na Cille	Erect stone wall & lighting around Community Centre & carpark	1000
Comhairle Muintir An Chaiseal Teoranta	Leitheanach Theas	Construction of extension to front & rear of Cashel Community Centre & develop outdoor play area	1000
Corrb Celtic F.C.	Castlecreevey	Pitch resurfacing & completion of dressing room	500
Coxtown/Clonlahen Residents Association	Ballytorick	Enhance entrance to Coxtown Road via stoneworks, landscaping, fencing, picnic area	500
Cregmore Sportsfield Development Committee	Grange	Completion of existing dressing rooms & showers & blding of a storage room at Cregmore Sportsfield	500
Creggs Development Committee	Creggs1	Erect stone location signs, picnic area in park & garden	1250
Eyrecourt & District Community Development Group	Eyrecourt	To provide information plaques & portable seating for the recently finished plaza/plás	1000
Glinsk Community Development Society	Glinsk Via Castlerev	Glinsk Beyond 2000 - Village Enhancement Plan	1250
Kilcolgan Community Council	Killeelymore	Improving the village through planting trees & shrubs	500

Monthly Meeting held on 27th November 2000

Kilconnell Community Development	Kilconnell	Erect stones with each townland name & repair old gates of local cemetery	1000
Kiltormer Enterprise Group	Ballydonagh	Phase 2 of preservation of Bellvue Arch & development of surrounding area	1000
Kilcoona Social Committee	Headford	Extend commnty centre premises to incorporate store, pre-school area, disabled facilit., new stage	500
Leenane Hall Committee	Leenane	Re-roofing of parish hall & essential repairs	750
Loughrea Tennis Club	Gort Road	Erection of perimeter 6' chain fencing & re-surface 2 tennis courts	1000
Milltown Development Co. Ltd.	Milltown	Develop Slí na Sláinte walk and relocation of Herds Cottage	1500
Monivea Active Age Group	Caherlissakill	Recondition a room for leisure & educational purposes	500
Monivea Community Development Co-Op Ltd	Monivea	To make existing children's playground safer by installing safety tiles & replacing the slide	1250
Monivea Rugby Football Club	Monivea	To improve youth facilities at Rugby Club	750
Moylough & District Community Council	Moylough	Erect stone plaques for townland place names and other projects	1750
Oranmore Community Development Assoc. Ltd.	Main Street	Development of amenities at centre of village	1000
Roundstone Development Council	Errisbeg House	Development of a games room in Community Hall for young people & adults	750
St. Brendan's Cathedral	Barrack Street	Installation of electrical services to improve visitor/tourist facilities	1250
Tiernascragh Development Group	Tiernascragh	Upgrade of parish ground to play field	750
Tuam Celtic Development	Kilcloghans	Building block walls, maintenance of dressing rooms, showers, 3 soccer pitches, provide running area	1250
Tuam Community Council	Galway Road	Renovation of existing Community Centre	750
Tuam Stadium Association	Church View	Re-development of Stadium to comply with health & safety regs as per blue book	750
Tuam Stars C.L.C.G.	34 Atherry Road	Development of new pitch & erection of dressing rooms & other facilities	500
Tynagh & District Development Society Ltd.	Tynagh	Provision of landscaping	750
Woodford/Looscaun Development Group	Woodford	To erect bends, landscap at junction of Barrack Lane/Rockhill Road, erect noticeboard at Rossmore	1250

Monthly Meeting held on 27th November 2000

GROUP	ADDRESS	PROJECT	AMOUNT £
Clifden I.C.A.	Clifden	Feasibility study to look at renovations of Town Hall	750
Caltra SportsField Committee	Caltra	Erection of new stand and drainage of playing pitch	500
Comhar Caomhan Teo Inis Oirr	Inis Oirr	Tógra i lár an Oileáin	1750
Headford-Claran Community Council	Deer Park	To improve and upgrade par-three course	500
Glinsk GAA Club	Cloonfaughna	Provision of lights, stand, etc in existing sports field	500
Inishbofin Development Company Ltd	Inishbofin	Upgrade storage room in community centre to a radio room & office space incl. Toilets	2000
Lackagh Museum & Heritage Centre	Lackaghmore	Building of indoor viewing rooms for machinery for all year round viewing	1000
Milltown Community Council Ltd.	Milltown	Community Hall Sports Centre	2000
Tuam Tidy Towns	54 Tubberjarlath Road	Millennium monument - sculpture	1000
Glenamaddy Community	Glenamaddy	Triumphal Arch	1000
Menlough Millennium Committee	Menlough	Millennium Park.	500
Williamstown Development Co. Ltd.	Williamstown	Plant trees on street in Williamstown	1750
Sliabh Aughty Community Association	Duniry	Provision of car park incidental to general amenity project	1000
Loughrea Boxing Club	Loughrea	Training etc.	500
Caheronaun Residents Association	Caheronaun	Develop, reclaim and seed green area (Loughrea)	500

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME 2000

834

Report dated 20th November 2000, outlining the recommendations for the Economic Development Financial Assistance Scheme 2000 was circulated to each member. The County Secretary said that £50,000 was provided in the estimates under this heading and 29 applications were received. The County Manager complimented the voluntary groups on the many worthwhile projects being undertaken. On the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham the Economic Development Financial Assistance Scheme 2000 recommendations were approved as follows;

Community Group	Financial Assistance	Activity
Milltown Development Company	£20,000	Provision of Enterprise Centre
Laurencetown Community Enterprise	£5,000	Provision of Enterprise Centre
Glinsk Community Development Society	£5,000	Provision of Enterprise Centre
North & West Conamara Rural Project	£5,000	Ongoing support for Capacity Building Initiatives
IRD South East Galway	£2,500	Publication of Scoping Study of South East Galway.
Comhairle Muintir an Chaiseal Teo	£2,000	Development of Community Resource Centre
Roundstone Development Council	£2,000	Construct a cultural/heritage archive
Maam Valley Craft Club	£1,500	Promotion of Local Craft Industry
Athenry Area Development Company	£1,000	Seeding cost for Youth Information Centre
Ballinakill Active Age	£1,000	Facilitation of Training Workshops
Leenane Development Association	£1,000	Enhance Community Resource Centre Services
Conamara Pony Breeders Society	£1,000	Development of Society's Tourism Centre
Ballinasloe Social Club	£1,000	Renovation costs for Ballinasloe catchment Youth Facility
Williamstown Development Company	£1,000	Enhance Community Resource Centre Service
Ballinasloe Community Information Centre	£1,000	Computer training for older rural dwellers

ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE WITH GALWAY CORPORATION

835

This matter arose from a request from Galway Corporation to meet members of the Council to discuss Waste Management. The members agreed that it would be desirable to establish a joint committee with Galway Corporation in relation to Waste and other matters of mutual concern. A number of proposals were put to the meeting in relation to the membership of the Councils group to meet the Corporation. It was proposed by Cllr. McClearn that the Council's representation be made up of two members from each electoral area. This proposal was seconded by Deputy Burke.

It was proposed by the Cathaoirleach that a committee comprising the six members of the Corporate Policy Group plus one member each from the Loughrea and Oranmore Electoral Areas (to be decided by the respective area committees) would form the

Councils' representation on the Committee. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Callanan.

A vote was taken on the Cathaoirleach's amendment which resulted as follows:-

AR SON: *Cllrs. J. Callanan, M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, C. Ni Fhatharta, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh (17)*

IN AGHAIDH: *Deputy U. Burke, Cllrs. J. J. Mannion, J. McClearn, M. Mullins, P O' Foighil, T. Walsh, (6)*

The Cathaoirleach declared the amendment carried.

The Council agreed the amendment to be carried as a substantive motion by the same voting and that the representative of the Loughrea and Oranmore Electoral Areas would be selected as quickly as possible.

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS 836

On the proposition of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by An Comhairleoir O' Foighil, the Members approved the declaration of the following roads to be public roads, the statutory procedures having been complied with :-

- (a) **Road commencing at junction with Local Road LS 8562 and extending north east for a distance of 163 meters in the Townland of Ballyvullaun.**
- (b) **Road commencing at junction with Local Secondary Rd. 8214 and extending west for a distance of 205 metres in the townland of Knockmoyle East.**
- (c) **Road commencing at point 260m. from Co. Rd. 8248 in Townland of Glennaclara West and extending west for a distance of 222 metres in the Townland of Barragarraun.**
- (d) **Road commencing at junction with N6 and extending north west for a distance of 152 metres in the townland of Knockadaumore.**
- (e) **Road commencing at junction with Co. Rd. 32026 and extending north westwards for a distance of 72 metres in the Townland of Ballayarha north.**

- (f) Road commencing at point 510 metres from junction with R351 and extending north for a distance of 317 metres in Townland of Grallagh.
- (g) Road commencing at junction with Local Secondary Rd. 8214 and extending west for a distance of 205 metres in the townland of Knockmoyle East.
- (h) Road commencing at point 230m from junction with R351 and extending south eastwards for a distance of 330 metres in the Townland of Acre Mór.
- (i) Road commencing at Local Road 4305 in Townland of Killoran and extending south for a distance of 270 metres in Townland of Killoran.
- (j) Road commencing at Co. Rd. 4305 in Townland of Kilmacshane and extending south for a distance of 320 metres in Townland of Kilmacshane.
- (k) Road commencing at point 422 metres from Local Road 8751 in townland of Addergeole and extending north for a distance of 270 metres in Townland of Addergeole.
- (l) Road commencing at junction with Local Road 8751 in Townland of Corbally Beg and extending west for a distance of 1008 metres via the Townland of Gortknappagh and ending at Local Road 87512 in Townland of Knockaun.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2000

837

The County Secretary referred to a schedule of proposed amendments to the Local Government Bill 2000 which had been agreed by the General Council of County Councils, AMAI and LAMA, copy of which had been circulated to each member. The County Secretary went through the proposed amendments and the Council made the following decisions;

Section 13 (M) Disqualification from Membership

It was agreed to add a new clause as follows:

(IV) ' A Conviction relating to the sale or distribution of illicit drugs.

Section 18 Lack of Attendance – forfeit of Membership

Members agreed to the amendment recommended.

Section 19 Casual Vacancies

Members agreed to defer a proposal to set up a list system at time of balloting from which replacement members would be nominated. In the event of the list system being used they agreed with the proposal that a clause be inserted so that a candidate would be permitted to contest for election in only one of the authorities listed in schedule 5 of the Bill and only one of the authorities in schedule 6.

Section 26 Timing of Elections

Members agreed that a referendum should not be held on the same date as a Local Election Poll.

Section 27 Marked copy of Register for candidates

The members were not in favour of a proposal to provide marked copies of polling station registers to candidates at election.

Section 27 (continued) Votes of Polling Station Staff

Members were in favour of a proposal which would provide full voting opportunities to polling station staff.

Section 40 Directly Elected Mayors

Some members wish to retain the present position for the election of Cathaoirleach but the majority agreed to the amendment requiring a five year qualification period provided that the candidate had served at least five years as a member of the Local Authority for which he/she was a candidate for Cathaoirleach.

It was agreed to defer discussion on the remaining proposals to the next monthly meeting of the Council.

**REPORT OF LOUGH CORRIB NAVIGATION TRUSTEES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1999**

838

On the proposition of Cllr. J.J. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Mullins the Council noted the auditors report of Lough Corrib Navigation Trustees for year ended 31st December, 1999.

MANAGERS BUSINESS

839

The County Manager referred to a recent advertisement in the local newspapers in relation to the Council's promotion of Turnkey developments. He said that this was a further housing initiative that the Council was taking and that the Housing Officer would circulate a copy of this advertisement to the members.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 11 - ROAD – CLLR. CUNNINGHAM

840

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:-

"The above road is not included in the current Road Works Programme. However, the matter will be examined when preparing next year's Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 12 - ROAD – CLLR. CUNNINGHAM

841

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:-

"The above road is not included in the current Road Works Programme. However, the matter will be examined when preparing next year's Road Works Programme."

N.O.M. NO. 13 – ROAD – CLLR. CUNNINGHAM

842

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:-

"This matter will be investigated and you will be informed of developments as soon as possible".

N.O.M. – NO. 14 – LIGHTING – CLLR. FAHY

843

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:-

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

N.O.M. – NO. 15 – LIGHTING – CLLR. FAHY

844

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:-

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

N.O.M. – NO. 16 – LIGHTING – CLLR. FAHY

845

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:-

"This is a junction between the National Secondary Route N66 and a Class 1 County Road. The provision of 2 lights on the National Secondary Route is not recommended. However, the County Council will provide delineators to highlight the junction as soon as possible".

N.O.M. – NO. 17 – ROAD – CLLR. S. GAVIN

846

The following reply was given to Cllr. S. Gavin:-

"This work will be carried out before Christmas".

N.O.M. – NO. 18 – ROAD – CLLR. S. GAVIN

847

The following reply was given to Cllr. S. Gavin:-

"This road was not included in this year's Road Works Programme. However, routine maintenance will be carried out as resources permit".

**N.O.M. – NO. 19 – WASTE MANAGEMENT
– CLLR. S. GAVIN**

848

The following reply was given to Cllr. S. Gavin:-

"The policy on Waste Management is a matter, which now comes under the remit of the Environment and Conservation Services SPC.

This SPC is dealing with the item as a matter of priority. It will be open to the SPC to invite interested parties to make presentations to it and one group has already shown an interest in this. Reports from the SPC meetings will come before the County Council as envisaged in the SPC guidelines".

N.O.M. – NO. 20 – ROADS – CLLR. P. HYNES

849

The following reply was given to Cllr. P. Hynes:-

"This is a Class 2 County Road and no provision has been made in the current year's Roadworks Programme for the removal of claybanks on same. However, the County Council will provide passing bays where road layout same under next year's Roadworks Programme".

N.O.M. – NO. 21 – WATER SUPPLY – CLLR. P. HYNES 850

The following reply was given to Cllr. P. Hynes:-

“A proposed Regional Water Supply Scheme for Loughrea and its environs is included on the Assessment of Needs for the period 2002 to 2006. It is proposed to review the extent of the scheme once the Department of the Environment and Local Government have included it on the Capital Programme as a scheme to Commence Planning”.

N.O.M. – NO. 22 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. HYNES 851

The following reply was given to Cllr. P. Hynes:

“The County Council is responsible for the maintenance of the above river on an agency basis for the OPW. The work required to alleviate the flooding involves the deepening of channel and widening of bridge and the County Council considers this to be the responsibility of the OPW. A proposal is being prepared at present for submission to the OPW”.

**N.O.M. - NO. 23 – OLD THEATRE, EYRECOURT –
CLLR. J. JOYCE 852**

The following reply was given to Cllr. J. Joyce:-

“A report will be requested from the Council’s Heritage Officer on this Building”.

**N.O.M. – NO. 24 – GROUP WATER SCHEME –
CLLR. J. JOYCE 853**

The following reply was given to Cllr. J. Joyce:-

“Preliminary meetings were held on the 12th April 1999 and 10th February 2000 and attended by staff from Galway County Council, trustees of the scheme, and the group’s Engineer. The group should engage their Design Engineer to prepare a realistic estimate of total cost for the group scheme’s and the County Council’s requirements in relation to pipe size. When the above information is to hand, the scheme can be progressed further”.

N.O.M. – NO. 25 – LIGHTING – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 854

The following reply was given to Cllr. M. Loughnane:-

"Provision of lights at above location will be considered as part of a future Village Renewal Programme or next year's Public Lighting Programme".

N.O.M. – NO. 27 – ROAD – CLLR. J.J. MANNION 855

The following reply was given to Cllr. M. Loughnane:-

"Routine maintenance will be carried out at the above location as resources permit before Christmas."

N.O.M. – NO. 28 – ROAD – SENATOR. J. MCDONAGH 856

The following reply was given to Senator J. McDonagh:-

"This location will be examined shortly with a view to providing appropriate signage."

N.O.M. – NO. 29 – FOOTPATH – SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 857

The following reply was given to Senator J. McDonagh:-

"An application for funding for the carrying out of works at above location has been submitted to the National Roads Authority for consideration under next year's National Roads Grant allocations".

**N.O.M. – NO. 30 – TRAFFIC CALMING –
SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 858**

The following reply was given to Senator J. McDonagh:-

"The proposed realignment at this location will take the N84 carriage further away from the present junction and thereby improve safety. The approach to the junction from Corrandulla is adequately signed".

N.O.M. – NO. 31 – ROAD – CLLR. P. MCHUGH 859

The following reply was given to Cllr. McHugh:-

"The junction signing will be investigated under the Low Cost Accident Programme for next year".

N.O.M. – NO. 32 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. MCHUGH 860

The following reply was given to Cllr. Mchugh:-

"The house in question is located in a hollow. The floor level is under road level. The County Council will facilitate the alleviation of flooding if the occupants or their relatives cut a drain through their own lands to low lying land".

N.O.M. – NO. 33 – ROAD – CLLR. S. WALSH 861

The following reply was given to Cllr. S. Walsh:-

"A detailed estimate will be prepared outlining the required works for upgrading of Main Street and Camp Street, Oughterard".

N.O.M. – NO.34 – ROAD – CLLR. S. WALSH 862

The following reply was given to Cllr. S. Walsh:-

"This road was not included in this year's Road Works Programme. However, routine maintenance will be carried out as resources permit".

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved & Signed

Connie Ní Phátharta.

Chairperson.

18-12-2000

Date:

**MINUTES OF STATUTORY ESTIMATES MEETING OF
GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE,
PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17TH 2000**

CATHAOIRLEACH: An Comhaorleoir Connie Ni Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

BAILL: Cllr.J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J Callanan,
Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs M. Quinn, M.
Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P.
Hynes, J. Joyce, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, Sen. J.
McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh,
T. McHugh, M. Mullins, P. O'Foighil,
P.O'Sullivan, K.Quinn, T. Rabbitt, T. Walsh.

OIFIGIH: Messrs. D.O'Donoghue, County Manager,
J.Tierney, Assistant Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co.
Secretary, J. Colleran, Co. Engineer, E. Lusby,
Finance Officer, L. Gavin, Sen. Exec. Engineer,
D. Barrett, A.O., T. Murphy A.O. E. Moloney,
A/A.O. C. MacAodha Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge,
C.Kennedy, A/A.O.

Thosnaigh an crinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY: 827

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to Joe & Mary Cooney & Family, Peterswell.

ESTIMATES 2001. 828

An Cathaoirleach welcomed the Members to this very important meeting and asked the County Manager to go through the Book of Estimates.

The County Manager explained that his Report contained an overview of the current year expenditure and progress, and the proposals for 2001. Solid progress in the expansion and upgrading of services was made in the year 2000 and the Estimates, now presented, reflected the necessary expenditure to continue this through 2001.

He pointed out that in all areas of proposed expenditure, it was evident that communities were being actively involved and supported at local level.

The County Manager outlined the sources of income, noting that the total grant from the Local Government Fund showed an increase of £3.3M over the 2000 allocation. The Needs and Resources Model which established a financial distribution process to accurately reflect the actual needs and income generating capacity of individual local authorities, had benefited Galway County Council in 2000 and 2001.

The proposed Rate in the Pound for 2001 was 9% over the rate adopted for 2000, which was the maximum allowable in accordance with direction of the Minister for Environment and Local Government. In view of the current well-being of the economic climate, the significant contribution that Council expenditure makes to the county's economy, and the requirement to optimise funding for the continued expansion and improvement of county-wide services, the application of the full 9% increase was recommended. The proposed increase would result in a general rate in the pound of £41.41, an increase of £3.42 per £1.00 valuation.

The total estimated Revenue Income for 2001 was £70.5M of which County Rates contributes £6.5M. The Manager then outlined the proposals for the allocation of estimated income over the eight programme groups for 2001. He paid tribute to all Council staff for their commitment and co-operation during the year and in particular to the Finance officer and those involved in the formulation of the Estimates. He thanked An Cathaoirleach and her predecessor Councillor Paddy McHugh for their co-operation, and all the Members of the Council for their assistance during the year and to all community and local groups for their co-operation.

He recommended that the Estimates as presented be adopted and the Rate in the Pound be determined as proposed.

An Cathaoirleach thanked the Manager on her own behalf and on behalf of the Members for his presentation and then invited comments from the Members.

Each of the Councillors in turn complimented the Manager and Finance Officer on the very professional presentation of the Estimates. There was unanimous welcome for the improvement in the areas of Disabled Persons Grants and Essential Repair Grants and also for the increases provided for the coming year.

Cllr. P. McHugh acknowledged the contribution of the County Manger, Mr. E. Lusby Finance Officer, Mr. Paul Ridge, S.E.E. and Mr. Jim Cullen in preparing the Needs and Resources Model from which Galway have now received their due distribution. He spoke of the success of the Affordable Housing Scheme in Tuam and complimented the Housing Staff. He welcomed the 60% increase in Public Lighting expenditure and hoped that there would be no delay by the ESB in carrying out the programme. He also welcomed the increase in Amenity Grants. The amount provided for Twinning of Local Authority areas seemed rather low. With regard to the possibility of a Twinning arrangement with Milwaukee, he suggested that the Council might consider areas more comparable to County Galway. He felt that a 9% increase in Rates may prove difficult to

adopt. However, he was very conscious of the progress being made in all services and he thanked the County Manager for the humanitarian and community approach evident throughout the Estimates.

Deputy Connaughton echoed Cllr. McHugh's sentiments and felt there was a striking attempt to link the local communities to the County Council. He was concerned for those business people who are setting up or expanding their businesses and creating employment, but who are penalised by increased Valuations of property. He asked the Finance Officer to explain why it was necessary to increase rates by 9% when inflation was just 7%. In relation to the Programme for Water Supplies he felt there was a problem between Group Schemes and Regional Schemes. In some areas, Group schemes can provide water cheaper and of higher quality than that provided by Regional Schemes but they are obliged to take water from the Regional Supply whereas other areas want the Regional Supply but no such supply is available.

He complimented the Housing Staff for their work and welcomed the increases proposed for Housing but was disappointed that in spite of this, the waiting list for housing is higher than ever before.

Mr. Lusby replied to Deputy Connaughton on the issue of 9% rate increase. He asked the Members to note that the Galway Rate was one of the lowest in the country – in 1977 there were 19 counties with a rate lower than Galway – in 2000 there were only 7 lower. Galway has benefited considerably as a result of the Needs and Resources Model. It is important to note that unless we maintain our Revenue Collection that we may not gain in future years. He pointed out that for 70% of ratepayers, the 9% rate increase will mean less than £2 per week increase. He asked the Members to remember that in the coming year 2001, the proposed revenue expenditure of £70.5m and Capital expenditure of £54.5 will inject £125m into the economy of County Galway.

Cllr. Gavin welcomed the increases provided for Public Lighting and Village Renewal Scheme. He acknowledged the fact that the Rate proposed would be amongst the lowest in the country but it would still be difficult to convince the public of its necessity. There were areas in Connemara who did not feel they were getting benefits particularly in relation to provision of water schemes. He noted that the cost of administering the Higher Education Grants had to be borne by the Council and felt they should be compensated. He welcomed the Moycullen Sewerage Scheme and hoped that the completion date of February 2001 could be met. There was a problem for potential development pending its completion and individuals had experienced difficulty in obtaining Planning permission because of lack of sewerage facilities.

Deputy U. Burke considered that the 9% Rate increase could be difficult to accept. He was concerned about the constant review of property valuations. People setting up in business or extending are penalised. He stated that Galway has the best housing record and referred to the potential of Affordable Housing. There is a need to review the provision of Housing in view of the many restrictions imposed through Planning, Heritage or SAC's. The Minister should be requested to substantially increase the amount of the Disabled Persons and Essential Repair Grants now available.

Cllr. Quinn welcomed the increases provided for the Urban and Village Renewal Schemes and Public Lighting. She welcomed the proposal for a new Library in Mountbellew. She also referred to the replacement of Demountables as soon as possible. She would like to see a once-off allocation to clear the backlog of LIS applications and an increase in the grant for local communities maintaining Burial Grounds. She considered the Community Development Scheme was important to local communities and also praised the work of the Litter Wardens.

Cllr. Callanan considered the 9% Rate increase very severe. In relation to Housing he felt that the Improvement Works in Lieu Scheme was progressing rather slowly. He considered that House Improvement Grants should be reintroduced. He praised the roadworks done on Aughrim-Cappatagle Road. He asked if it would be possible to issue Drivers Licence Reminders. In relation to the Ballinasloe Public Library, he recommended that the Council would consider buildings coming on the market in the area. He welcomed the proposal for the Kilconnel Sewerage Scheme. He would like to see the local community being involved in the Aughrim Interpretative Centre. He acknowledged the work being done by Planning Staff and referred to the income expected from Development Charges.

Cllr. Joyce requested the Council to recruit more permanent road workers and to have central heating installed in all County Council houses. He referred to difficulties encountered by people seeking Council housing either in the Ballinasloe Urban area or the rural hinterland and he asked if the two Housing Authorities could co-operate in such cases. He welcomed the Tourism Project for East Galway. He was glad to note that Ordinance Survey Maps will soon be available at the Council offices in 2001 which will be very helpful for the general public. He felt that the proposal to have just one council meeting per month when the SPC's are fully operational was a good idea.

Cllr. Hoade noted the number still awaiting housing and felt that the Council should make every effort to reduce the list. She welcomed the improved position on Public Lighting. She was pleased to note the Council's intention to provide a Library in Headford, which would be a big benefit to the area. Increased funding for National Secondary Roads was badly needed. Land had been acquired some years ago for improvements on the N84 but the work has not been carried out because of lack of funding. Additional funding was necessary to reduce the backlog of L.I.S. She also welcomed the increases in Amenity and Arts Grants.

Cllr. Cunningham would like to see all demountable dwellings replaced. He welcomed the increase in Public Lighting and indicated that delays in implementing the programme by the E.S.B. would be unacceptable. He thanked the Finance Office for the increase in the Arts Grants. He welcomed the proposed Regional Water Scheme for Gort and hoped it could proceed as soon as possible and also the improvements to Gort Sewerage and Water Schemes under the Serviced Land Initiative. He welcomed the Traffic Management Scheme for Gort and referred particularly to the Georges Street Junction.

The Litter Warden Scheme was important and he would welcome increased involvement of both Litter and Traffic Wardens in Gort.

Cllr. T.O Mainnín was delighted to see Local Community Groups being increasingly acknowledged this year. He welcomed the Tourism Project for East Galway and agreed with Cllr. Callanan's proposal re Ballinasloe Library. As Chairman of the County Development Board he expressed his appreciation for the support he received. His main concern in relation to the 9% Rate increase was that the rates levied was not linked to the persons ability to pay.

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan observed that the Book of Estimates showed that the County Council was involved in every facet of life. He was concerned that the 9% rate increase would be hitting the same people as affected by water and other charges. He asked if the Council had a policy in relation to roaming horses which were a problem in the county. He felt that the new Council offices in Ballinasloe could be used for a greater number of services. In particular, he would like to see the Planning services available on a more permanent basis. He also agreed with previous speakers in relation to Ballinasloe Library. He thanked John Tierney, Assistant Manager for the work he had done in Ballinasloe and particularly the manner in which he had carried it out.

Cllr. J.J. Mannion was concerned that increasingly the Government were specifying how grants could be spent and also that many were conditional on a local contribution. He said that the public should be aware that if the rate was not increased by 9% there was a possibility that the county would not be eligible to benefit from the maximum funding available and be penalised in future years. He welcomed the proposal for Clifden Sewerage Scheme which was its first upgrade since 1930. He complemented the County Manager in providing a Bus Park in Clifden. He referred to the Clifden Regional Water Scheme and said that he would like to see this progressing at the earliest possible time.

An Cathaoirleach stated that there were many more Councillors who wished to speak and it was proposed and agreed that the Meeting be adjourned until Monday December 4th to commence at 11.00a.m.

Criochnaigh An Cruinniú Ansin

Submitted, approved & Signed

Connie Ní Anatharta

30th May, 2001.

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL,
GALWAY ON MONDAY, 13th NOVEMBER 2000.**

CATHAOIRLEACH: Comh. Connie Ní Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FRESIN:

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Manager's, J. Colleran, County Engineer, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., M. Killoran-Coyne, S.O., C. MacAodha Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge & Ms. A. Power, A/S.O.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

812

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Ms. Sally Glynn, Claregalway, Co. Galway
Family of Willie Glynn, Lydican, Claregalway, Co. Galway
Mrs. E. Curley, St. Joseph's Place, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
Michael & Nellie McDonagh, Ower, Roscahill, Co. Galway

Mrs. Ann Devane, Carna, Co. Galway.

The Members extended their sympathy with Patricia Dolan, Housing Section on the recent death of her brother; Martin Daniels, Revenue Collector on the recent death of his father; the Family of Finbar Cleary, Moycullen former Local Government Auditor who died recently and the family of P.M. Stapleton, Tuam, a former Town Commissioner.

CONGRATULATIONS

813

An Cathaoirleach congratulated Mr. J. Tierney on his promotion as City Manager to Galway Corporation and wished him the best of luck and success.

REPORT OF MEETING OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

814

The County Secretary referred to the item regarding Official Openings on Page 4 of the Report. He said that it was desirable to make arrangements for official openings and in particular to decide who would do the official opening.

It was agreed that the official opening of the Clifden Square Development would be undertaken by the Cathaoirleach.

In relation to Oranmore and Portumna Sewerage Schemes, the Members agreed that the Minister for the Environment and Local Government be invited to perform the official opening and if possible to have the official opening for Loughrea Library on the same day.

It was agreed that the Minister for An Roinn Ealaíon Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta and Oileán should be invited to open the Gort Heritage Centre.

It was agreed to consult with the local committee in relation to the official opening of the Oranmore Library.

It was agreed that the proposed Library at Carraroe would be opened by An Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Hynes raised the issue regarding representations by Non-Councillors. He said that this arose from a complaint he made to the Ombudsman Office four years ago regarding the Council's policy in relation to representations made by people who are not Councillors. He proposed that orders made in 1998 should be rescinded and the public should get replies to all correspondence. He said it should not be the privilege of Members to get written replies to written representations in this age of openness and transparency.

Councillor J. Burke said the position of Town Commissioner should be protected and as elected commissioners they are making representations on behalf of their own area and should be entitled to the same service as a Councillor in the County.

Councillor Gavin said that at a subsequent Meeting, a decision was made that this item would come before the full Council and the large volume of correspondence was a problem for the Council.

The County Secretary said that this matter had been further dealt with at Meeting on 3rd November 2000 and this report will be coming before the Members shortly. He said that this debate should be deferred until the Report of Meeting of 3/11/00 is before the Members. This was agreed by the Members.

**REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994
REGARDING CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDER
THE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME**

815

Report dated 2nd November 2000 had been circulated to each Member.

- (a) Construction of single rural house with appropriate treatment facilities at Tooreena, Renvyle, Co. Galway

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain.

- (b) Construction of single rural house with appropriate treatment facilities at Letterfrack, Co. Galway

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Councillor J. Conneely, seconded by Councillor S. Walsh.

- (c) Construction of single rural house with appropriate treatment facilities at Moneen (ED Island), Williamstown, Co. Galway

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor T. Walsh.

- (d) Construction of single rural house with appropriate treatment facilities at Ballingatta, Mountbellew, Co. Galway

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Councillor M. Connolly, seconded by Councillor T. Mannion.

In reply to Councillor P. McHugh, Mr. J. Tierney said that the proposed works would be going to tender soon.

An Comhairleoir O Neachtain said that many applications for rural houses are being delayed because of lack of staff in both Housing and Engineering Sections. He said that those applications should be dealt with within a certain time-frame and requested that these would be dealt with within two months.

Rinne An Comhairleoir O Foighil tagairt ar iarratas tithíochtá ó dhuine as Inis Maan agus d'iarr sé go mbrostofaí an iarratas.

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF EU CO-FINANCED ROAD GRANT PROPOSALS 2001

Report dated 26th October 2000 had been circulated to each Member.

Councillor Callanan said that the Ballinasloe Electoral Area Committee had not yet considered the proposals. He said that he had no objections to the Council approving of the projects subject to the Ballinasloe Area Committee approving of the projects within its area up to the value of the schemes included in the list.

The County Secretary said that the list of projects as amended at Area Committee level would be included in the submission.

The submission of EU Co-financed Road Grant Proposals 2001, subject to amendments at Area Committee level, were approved on the proposal of Councillor M. Connolly, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain.

IT WAS DECIDED TO DEAL WITH ITEM NO. 5 AT THIS POINT

SALE OF LAND

817

On the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Councillor M. Connolly, the Council approved the sale of land comprising 0.025 acres at Cross Street, Athenry to Mr. Peter Gilhooly, Belleville, Athenry in accordance with Notice dated 2nd November 2000 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to Members.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR REVIEW OF TOWN PLANS 818
FOR:

- (a) **LOUGHREA & ENVIRONS**
- (b) **GORT**
- (c) **ATHENRY**

A Report dated 3rd November 2000 had been circulated to the Members recommending that an extension of time for the plans for the three scheduled towns to the 30th April 2001 be sought from the Minister.

Councillor Regan said that the plans should be finalised sooner than 30th April 2001 and the process speeded up.

Deputy U. Burke said there could be no further development in Loughrea presently because of the inadequacies of the infrastructure and there was an urgency to finalise this town plan.

The County Manager said that it was very important to have live and current Development Plans in place in towns. He agreed that it was important to complete the review of the plans as soon as possible and urged the Members to arrange Area Meetings to deal with the submissions.

Councillor McClearn said that one final meeting would finalise the Town Plan for Loughrea and that the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee would decide on that date.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor McClearn and resolved that an extension of time be sought for the review of the Development Plans for the scheduled towns of (a) Loughrea & Environs, (b) Gort and (c) Athenry to the 30th April 2001.

IT WAS DECIDED TO DEAL WITH ITEM NO.s 4 and 4(a) AT THIS POINT

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT 819
PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA
& ENVIRONS, TOWNLAND OF GORTEENAPHEEBRA,
LOUGHREA
PLANNING REF. NO. 00-3595 APPLICANT: O'ROURKE
& SONS CONSTRUCTION LTD.

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

Mr. L. Kavanagh, outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following Report which had been circulated to the Members.

"APPLICANT: O Rourke & Sons Construction Ltd.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Permission for construction of dwellinghouse at Gorteenapheebrá, Loughrea

LOCATION: The site is located adjacent to the N6 at Gorteenapheebrá opposite the GAA grounds.

PREVIOUS HISTORY Under Planning Ref. No. 99/3842 O Rourke & Sons Construction were refused permission for change of house type and revised site boundaries at No. 6 Fortland Meadows, Gorteenapheebrá on 2/5/2000. Under Planning Ref. No. 99/185 S. O Rourke was granted permission for 16 houses (Material Contravention) on 31/5/99.

ASSESSMENT: The site is within the 40 m.p.h. speed limit zone of Loughrea town on lands which are zoned agricultural in the current Loughrea Plan. The lands are however, proposed to be zoned residential in the draft development plan for Loughrea. The site area is 0.0615 ha. And forms part of an estate granted permission under Planning Ref. No. 99/185. The site is adjacent to monument 102 (school) sheet 105 of the Sites and Monuments Record which shall be protected by imposition of an archaeological condition.

OBJECTIONS

There have been no objections in relation to the application.

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 28th September 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 27th November, 2000."

Councillor Cunningham proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by O Rourke & Sons Construction Ltd., for planning permission for the construction of dwellinghouse at Gorteenapheebra, Loughrea, planning reference no. 00/3595, and having considered the Report 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 that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor Hynes seconded this proposal.

A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J. Burke, Cllr J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllr M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, J. J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllr P. McHugh, T. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O' Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, S. Walsh & T. Walsh (26)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried .

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT 820
PLAN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 22 DETACHED &
12 SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES, TOWNLAND OF FAIRYHILL,
PORTUMNA
PLANNING REF. NO. 00/74 APPLICANT: MRS. EILISH
TAYLOR**

Mr. L. Kavanagh, outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following Report dated 9th November 2000 which had been circulated to the Members.

"APPLICANT: Mrs Eilish Taylor, c/o Brian Callagy, 19 Dr. Mannix Road, Salthill, Galway

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: The proposed development is for the construction of 22 detached and 12 semi-detached houses at Fairyhill, Portumna, Co. Galway

LOCATION: The site is located adjacent to the N65 National Secondary Route at Fairyhill, Portumna. The N65 is subject to Class II control in the County

Development Plan but the site lies inside the speed limit for the town.

PLANNING HISTORY: There is no previous planning permission on this site.

ASSESSMENT: The site lies within the Portumna Town Plan area, on land zoned for agricultural development. For this reason, the current proposal for 34 no. two storey dwellings can only be passed by way of material contravention to the plan. The site comprises c 4.5 acres and the proposed development would result in a density of c. 8 to the acre. This is considered reasonable. The land can be serviced by the public sewer and water mains. The land immediately adjacent to the west is also zoned agricultural and the land to the east is zoned commercial/residential. The site is just below the threshold at which an Environmental Impact Statement would be required, same being 2 hectares/5 acres.

ZONING: The proposed development is on land zoned agricultural.

OBJECTIONS: There are objections to the proposed development. The objections relate to five issues, all of which have been considered by the Planning Authority. These relate to zoning, pollution and the absence of an Environmental Impact Statement.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that permission be granted to materially contravene the County Development Plan

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 21st September, 2000 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections. None were submitted following publication of this notice.

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 20th November, 2000."

Mr. L. Kavanagh informed the Members that there were objections to the proposed development and these have been considered by the Planning Department. They relate to zoning, pollution and the absence of an Environmental Impact Statement. He explained that an E.I.S. is not required in this case as the area is under the threshold limit.

Councillor McClearn said there was a need for an updated development plan for the town of Portumna.

Deputy U. Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mrs. Eilish Taylor, for planning permission for the construction of 22 detached and 12 semi-detached houses at Fairyhill, Portumna, planning reference no. 00/74, and having considered the Report dated 9th November 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 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, Cllr. J. Burke, Cllr J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllr M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J. J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Senator J. McDonagh, Cllr P. McHugh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O' Sullivan, K. Quinn, M. Regan, T. Rabbitt, S. Walsh & T. Walsh (29)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried .

ADJOURNMENT

821

On the proposal of Councillor McClearn, seconded by Councillor Cunningham, the Members agreed to adjourn the Meeting for five minutes as a mark of respect to the late P.M. Stapleton, former Councillor and Town Commissioner, Tuam.

IT WAS DECIDED TO DEAL WITH ITEM NO. 7 AT THIS POINT

SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBERS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2000

822

The County Secretary informed the Members that no written submissions had been received on the Local Government Bill 2000.

After a discussion, the Members agreed to extend the date for submission of amendments to the Bill to 21st November 2000.

CONFERENCES

823

On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Fahy, 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 New Voice for Communities Conference – Dublin – 22 November 2000

Cllr. M. Fahy	Cllr. M. Cunningham	Cllr. N. Grealish
Cllr. J. Callanan	Sen. J. McDonagh	Cllr. M. Regan
Cllr. K. Quinn	Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. J. Conneely
Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. T. McHugh	Cllr. T. Walsh
Cllr. J. McClearn		

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

824

Waste Management Plan

The County Secretary informed the Members that correspondence had been received from the Acting City Manager, Galway Corporation requesting a meeting between a sub-committee of Galway Corporation and members of Galway County Council in order to discuss the issue of waste management in Galway city and county.

Councillor Regan said that negotiations would have to begin on a new waste plan. Councillor McClearn said that a unanimous decision was made to proceed with the preparation of a plan for the County only and he didn't agree with arranging a meeting at this stage until the county's waste problem is sorted out. Councillor Gavin said that the Council was in a very difficult situation but must go forward. He said any meeting is worthwhile and there may be merit in it. Councillor Joyce referred to an article in the Guardian News on 1st November which relates to incinerators. He asked the County Secretary to circulate this article to each Member. Councillor McHugh said that the Corporation had treated the Council with contempt. He said it had not only made a decision for themselves but had effectively made one for the county as well. He argued that it was now time for the Council to get its own house in order and leave the Corporation to solve their own problem. Councillor Cunningham said that the Corporation made popular choices for the city and that the Council should advance its own plans first. Councillor Grealish said that the Council is facing a crisis situation and must face up to its responsibility regarding waste management. He said that private waste contractors and environmental groups who campaigned against the adoption of incineration as part of Galway's waste disposal strategy, should be invited to discuss the

future of waste management in the area. Councillor Rabbitt suggested that the Council set up a day-long seminar and invite all interested parties from Councillors to Contractors in a bid to find a solution. Councillor J.J. Mannion said that it would be unfair of the Council to adopt a policy that would prevent the Corporation from dealing with the management of waste. He said that there were always close ties between the two local authorities and as the closest local authority to the Council it was important to work with them on this. He said that a meeting should be arranged at the earliest possible date. Councillor T. Walsh said that before any meetings are arranged, the Council should get together and decide on a strategy. He said that it was gone past the time for postponement of this important issue and we had to decide among ourselves what our plan is. He said that co-operation is very important. Councillor Fahy agreed that a meeting would do no harm but insisted that it be made clear that the County Council were under no obligation to solve the Corporation's waste problem. He suggested a landfill site much closer to the city than proposed, to reflect the amount of waste generated in the Borough area. Councillor Connolly said that the Council unanimously adopted proposals two months back and asked what was the update. He said it was important to try and resolve problem. Councillor Callanan said that the Council came up with proposals two months ago and asked if these were acceptable? Councillor O'Sullivan said that there had been a lot of time spent discussing the problem of waste management and now it was time to look at the solutions. Councillor Hynes agreed with the request for a meeting but said there needed to be proper consultation between community groups, members and officials.

The County Manager said that the first meetings of the SPC's would be taking place in the coming week. He said that waste would be the responsibility of the Environmental and Conservation Services SPC. He said that a comprehensive report on the waste management position was being prepared and a copy would be circulated to each Member. He said the SPC's would be the policy recommending agencies for the full Council and it was important to engage the SPC in the issue of waste management. He referred to recent correspondence received from the Department of the Environment and Local Government requesting the Council to have discussions with neighbouring local authorities in order to come up with a regional solution to waste management. He said that the Minister's letter was a strong reason to meet the Corporation and the sooner the Council has open discussions with neighboring local authorities the better. He said that the Environmental and Conservation SPC will spend time on this issue and will come back with recommendations to the full Council. He said that nearly three years had been wasted so far on this issue and the Council could not afford to waste any more time on a "go it alone" policy for County Galway. He said that if the waste plan is not proceeded with, it will impede advancement of other projects in the county.

The Cathaoirleach proposed that this item would be put on agenda for discussion for the next Council Meeting and Councillor Callanan seconded the proposal.

The Manager informed the Members that Consultants had been appointed to carry out an organisational review of the Planning Department. He asked the Members to fix a date for meeting the Consultants.

This was agreed for Friday, 1st December 2000 at 3.00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

825

Tenure of Office for County Manager

The Cathaoirleach informed the Members that she had received notification from the County Manager under section 47A(2) of the Local Government Act 1991, as a result of which the Manager's tenure of office is automatically extended by three years. She said that a copy of the notification must be sent to the Minister for the Environment and Local Government and the Local Appointments Commission. The Members noted the position.

Milltown Water

Councillor T. McHugh informed the Members that it was proposed by Galway County Council to extend Phase 2 of the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme to Milltown. He said that the Milltown Group Water Scheme proposes to amalgamate the water schemes of Milltown, Milltown North East, Belmont and Kilphrasogue which serve over 400 houses. He said that the four water schemes wanted to combine to take water from the River Clare which would meet their own needs. Councillor Connolly supported and pointed out that those involved with the Milltown proposal were concerned at the lack of official support. Councillor P. McHugh stated that it was unfair to ask people to wait three and four years until the Tuam Scheme reached them when they did not want to join the scheme in the first place.

In reply, Mr. Nelson, Assistant County Manager said £30m is being spent on Stage 2 of Tuam R.W.S.S. and it would be very foolish to spend money duplicating the service. He said he believed those backing the private scheme were opposed to the Regional Water Scheme because they wanted to avoid paying the commercial rate for water. He said that similar efforts had been made in other places but it was very unlikely the Council would use taxpayers money to fund a scheme set up in opposition to its own.

Lighting - Gort

Councillor Cunningham raised the issue about lighting for George's Street, Gort. He said that this issue had been raised in 1997 but to-date no lights have been put in place and he queried the long delay.

In reply the County Engineer said that there were a small number of similar situations like this throughout the county and it was the subject of ongoing discussion. He said he would follow it up with the E.S.B.

PRESENTATION TO D. NELSON

826

On behalf of the Members, the Cathaoirleach made a presentation to Mr. Nelson of two bronze pieces. The Cathaoirleach congratulated Mr. Nelson on his appointment as County Manager in Monaghan. She said that he had given valuable service to the Council since he joined six years ago. She wished him and his family well in the future. The Members joined the Cathaoirleach in the congratulations and good wishes.

The County Manager joined in congratulating Mr. Nelson on his appointment as County Manager to Monaghan. He thanked him for his contribution to both Galway County Council and Ballinasloe U.D.C. and wished him and his family the best for the future.

Mr. Nelson said that he enjoyed working and living in Galway. He said there had been very large works programmes and so many achievements in the last five years. He complimented the Members, the Staff and the Manager who had given him invaluable advice. He thanked the people on the Management Team and commented on the great working relationship between them. He thanked the Cathaoirleach and previous Cathaoirligh for their courtesy and kindness and also the local press. He asked the Members to join him for some refreshments.

Chríochnaigh an Cruinniú ansin.

Submitted, approved & Signed

Connie Ní Phatharta

Chairperson

15-12-2000

Date.

Notification for the purposes of section 47A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1991 (as inserted by section 1 of the Local Government Act, 2000)

EXTENSION OF PERIOD OF OFFICE OF MANAGER

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

To: The Cathaoirleach
Galway County Council.

1. I, DONAL O'DONOGHUE, County/~~City~~ Manager of GALWAY County/~~City~~ Council, hereby give notification under Section 47A of the Local Government Act, 1991.
2. I understand that, pursuant to section 47A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1991, I cannot apply for appointment to any office of manager during the period commencing on the date of this notification and ending six months prior to the expiration of my tenure period, as extended by Section 47A of the Local Government Act, 1991, with the exception of any office specified for the time being for the purposes of section 47A(3)(d) of the Local Government Act, 1991.
3. I also understand that, pursuant to article 3(5) of the Local Government (Tenure of Office of Managers) Regulations, 2000, article 21 or 78, as appropriate, of the Local Government (Superannuation) (Consolidation) Scheme, 1998 shall not apply to me if I cease to hold office before the expiration of my tenure period, as extended by Section 47A of the Local Government Act, 1991.

Signed: Donal O'Donoghue

Date: 27th October, 2000

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON 23rd OCTOBER, 2000

Cathaoirleach

An Comhairleoir C. Ni Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FREISIN;

Baill:

Deputies U. Burke & P. Connaughton, Cllrs. J. Callanan, 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, Cllrs. P. McHugh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, P. O Foighil, S. O'Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbit, M. Regan, T. Walsh & S. Walsh

Oifigigh:-

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, D. Nelson, J. Tierney, Asst. Co. Managers, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Collieran, County Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, B. McDermott, A.O., A. Comer, Exec. Engineer, Cuimin Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge, A. Power, A/S.O. & A. Whelan, A/A.S.O.

Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

Sunday Independent Article on Paralympics

An Cathaoirleach referred to remarks made by Sunday Independent columnist Mary Ellen Synon in her column on 22nd October 2000 regarding the Paralympics. The Cathaoirleach stated that the article was disgraceful. She said she felt it incumbent on her to express to all the athletes taking part, their families and those who worked so hard to get an Irish team to the Paralympics, the support and backing of the Council and their disgust at the comments printed in The Sunday Independent. The Members endorsed the sentiments of An Cathaoirleach.

New Banking Arrangements

Deputy Burke proposed that a Resolution be sent to the Banks to ask them to withdraw their proposal to cease cashing Council paying orders over the counter from 13th November 2000. He said that this would create hardship and inconvenience for employees and pensioners. Councillor Callanan seconded this proposal and it was agreed by the Members.

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

The Finance Officer explained that this situation came to the Council's notice during the previous week and he was informed by Bank of Ireland that paying orders would not be cashed in branches. The Finance Officer arranged a Meeting with the Regional Bank Manager of the Bank of Ireland to discuss the situation and it was agreed that the 13th November start-date would not apply to Galway County Council.

The Members unanimously rejected any unilateral proposal by the Bank of Ireland in its capacity as Council Treasurer, to alter without prior agreement any of the facilities or services traditionally available to recipients of Council paying orders.

Invitation to Minister Eamon O'Cuiv

Councillor Callanan referred to a recent visit by Minister Eamon O'Cuiv to Mayo County Council. He proposed that Deputy O'Cuiv and his Officials be invited to a Meeting of Galway County Council to discuss different aspects of his Department. Councillor Loughnane seconded this proposal. Chuidigh an Comhairleoir O Foighil leis seo.

Deputy Burke proposed that Officials from Duchas be invited to a Meeting also. This was agreed by the Members.

DATES FOR MEETINGS

771(b)

The County Manager advised the Members that the first Meetings of the SPC's would be held in the next 2/3 weeks. He said that the Council had appointed Consultants to develop Business Plans for the Council's Housing and Planning Departments which involves a review of the office structures and processes. He wanted to fix dates for the SPC Meetings so that both the Housing Services SPC and the Planning & Economic Development SPC would have an input into that Plan.

After a brief discussion the following dates were agreed by Members for the following Meetings:-

02/11/2000	Joint Meeting of Oranmore & Loughrea Area Committees	11.30 a.m.
02/11/2000	Loughrea Area Committee Meeting	2.00 p.m.
03/11/2000	C.P.G. Meeting	2.30 p.m.
07/11/2000	Oranmore Area Committee Meeting	3.30 p.m.
08/11/2000	Housing SPC Meeting	3.30 p.m.
13/11/2000	Tuam Area Meeting	10.30 a.m.
13/11/2000	Revised date for Planning Meeting	3.30 p.m.
14/11/2000	Roads SPC Meeting	11.00 a.m.
14/11/2000	Environmental & Conservation SPC Meeting	2.00 p.m.
14/11/2000	Planning & Economic Development SPC Meeting	3.00 p.m.
14/11/2000	Ballinasloe Area Meeting	5.30 p.m.
15/11/2000	Cultural & General Services SPC Meeting	4.00 p.m.
17/11/2000	Estimates Meeting	3.00 p.m.

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

27/11/2000	County Council Meeting	3.30 p.m.
18/12/2000	County Council Meeting	3.30 p.m.

Councillor Loughnane asked if a date had been decided for a return visit by the Consultants for discussion on the LUTS Study. In reply, the County Manager stated that discussions were taking place on this in the coming week. He said that the National Development Plan, and Water and Sanitary Services Programmes would effect the original plan. He said that it had to be decided whether to review the Study as there had been many changes in economic conditions. He said that it would be on the Agenda before Christmas.

Referring to the rail system, Deputy Connaughton asked that the Council would realistically look at the possibility of expansion of rail links in the future. He suggested that the Council get experts within the county to look at this area and said that what was not possible five years ago may be possible now.

MINUTES

772

Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway County Council held on 8th September 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Regan, seconded by Deputy Connaughton.

Councillor Callanan said that at Special Meeting held on 8th September 2000 approval was given to Councillor Loughnane to visit Waste Recycling Plants operated by Canburra City Council and this was not recorded in the Minutes. The County Secretary explained that the proposal as put forward was not in order. He had explained the procedure to be followed to Councillor Loughnane.

Minutes of Meeting of Galway County Council and Galway Corporation for presentation of the Emerging Preferred Routes for the Outer By-Pass held on 8th September 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Regan.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Galway County Council held on 25th September 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Fahy, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

773

It was agreed that consideration of the Report of the Oranmore Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 11th September 2000 would be deferred.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 15th May 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor T. McHugh, seconded by Councillor Quinn.

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 10th July 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor T. Walsh, seconded by Councillor Quinn.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 28th August 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor T. Walsh.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 2nd October 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor T. McHugh, seconded by Deputy Connaughton.

The Report of the Tuam and Oranmore Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 2nd October 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Senator McDonagh, Seconded by Councillor Connolly.

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 13th October 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor T. McHugh.

It was agreed that item no. 4 would be dealt with next.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT 774
PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY,
TOWNLAND OF BALLYDAVID SOUTH. PLANNING
REF. NO. 99/109 APPLICANT: DENIS COEN**

Mr. A. Comer, Executive Planner, outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following Report dated 17th October, 2000, which had been circulated to the Members.

“APPLICANT: Denis Coen, c/o Brian Callagy, 19 Doctor Mannix Road, Salthill, Galway

ZONING: *The site is approx. 3.5 acres in area and is currently zoned for agricultural purposes and is proposed to be re-zoned residential in the draft plan for Athenry.*

LOCATION: *The site is located at Ballydavid South, Athenry and fronts onto the Monivea Road. Access is proposed by utilising an existing estate road through a recently completed development.*

PROPOSAL: *The proposal is for full planning permission for 13 detached 2 storey dwellinghouses and 10 semi-detached 2 storey houses. Open space requirements are fulfilled. Residential density is 6.5 dwellinghouses per acre*

SERVICES: *The proposed development will be serviced by the public foul sewer. Storm water will be disposed of on site*

RECOMMENDATION: *It is recommended to grant a material contravention of the present development plan for Athenry to facilitate the development.*

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 21st September, 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 20th November, 2000."

Councillor M. Regan proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Denis Coen, for planning permission for the construction of 13 no. detached and 10 no. semi-detached houses, planning reference no. 99/109, and having considered the Report dated 17th October, 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 Government Act, 1991, hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application. Councillor M. Cunningham seconded this proposal.

A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON

Deputy U. Burke, Cllr J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllr M. Connolly, J. Conneely, 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, Cllr P. McHugh, T. McHugh, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, P. O' Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh & T. Walsh (27)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried .

DECLARATION OF ROAD TO BE PUBLIC ROAD 775

On the proposal of Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Fahy, the Members approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Road commencing at point 566 metres from Co. Road 4219 in Townland of Roo and extending west for a distance of 139 metres in Townland of Roo, Loughrea.

SALE OF LAND AT ABBEY TRINITY, TUAM 776

On the proposal of Councillor P. McHugh, seconded by Councillor T. McHugh the Council approved the sale of land comprising 0.816 hectares approximately situated in the townland of Townsparks (2nd Division) and known as Abbey Trinity, Tuam to Tiernan Properties of Arthurs Quay Limerick in accordance with Notice dated 11th October 2000 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to Members.

In reply to a query from Councillor Connolly, Mr. Tierney, Assistant County Manager explained that this Town Centre Development is taking place in the car-park site and will consist of a major retail development, hotel development, major car-park and office accommodation. He said that a huge public consultation process had taken place and the site is being sold subject to planning permission.

ORANMORE DEVELOPMENT PLAN – ITEM 8 ON AGENDA 777

It was decided to defer this item.

PRESENTATION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2000 778

The County Secretary gave a presentation on the Local Government Bill 2000. He said that it was a substantial piece of legislation and is one element of renewal of Local Government. The Bill contains 208 pages and is made up of 23 parts. A copy of the presentation is attached to the Minutes.

He said that the main aims of Local Government Bill 2000 are:-

- *To enhance the role of the elected Member*
- *To promote community involvement with Local Authorities*
- *Modernise Local Government legislation*
- *Underpin generally programme of Local Government Reform and Renewal*
- *Repeal outdated legislation*
- *Provide a single, common legislative code.*

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

Part 2 deals with Local Government Areas and types of Local Authorities. It is proposed that there will be three categories of Local Government areas:-

County Area City Area Town Area

Three types of Local Authority:

County Council City Council Town Council

There would be no County Boroughs, Urban District Councils or Town Commissions and that members will be titled Councillor. The Chair of every Local Authority would be called Cathaoirleach and Vice-Chair would be called Leas-Cathaoirleach (or Mayor and Deputy Mayor).

Part 3 deals with Local Authority Membership. The County Secretary explained that from 2004 TD's and Senators will be disqualified from Local Authority Membership. He said it was proposed that casual vacancies be filled by co-option of a person nominated by the same registered political party that caused the vacancy. Where the vacancy is non-party, standings orders would cover that situation.

Part 4 deals with Local Elections and it proposes that the next Local Elections will be held in May or June 2004 and must be held every five years thereafter (no deferral).

The County Secretary outlined the main provisions contained in **Part 5** as follows:-

- Each Local Authority must have a chairperson and vice-chairperson to be known as "Cathaoirleach" and "Leas-Chathaoirleach".
- Cities or Towns that had a Mayor shall continue such title unless they decide otherwise by resolution.
- Cathaoirleach Chontae na Gaillimhe, not Cathaoirleach "Comhairle" Chontae na Gaillimhe
- County Council may opt for title Mayor
- Deals with removal of Cathaoirleach/Leas Cathaoirleach from office
 - motion must be signed by one third members
 - three quarters of total members must vote in favour
- From 2004 – there will be direct election of Cathaoirleach for County Councils and City Councils
- County or City – one electoral area for this purpose
- Maximum term for Directly Elected Cathaoirleach is two by five year terms
- If Directly Elected Cathaoirleach is not already a member – number of members will be increased by one
- Casual vacancy – direct election where remaining period exceeds 12 months.

The main provisions contained in **Part 6** relating to Meetings and proceedings are as follows:-

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

Local Authorities must hold:

- *Annual Meeting*
- *Budget Meeting*
- *Such other Meetings as are necessary*
- *Right of attendance of public/media at meetings*
- *"Meetings in Committee" are restricted*
- *Meetings Administrator to issue notices, do minutes, etc.*
- *Council may encourage use of Irish Language*
- *Shall adopt Standing Orders*
- *Quorum for Galway County Council Meetings will change to nine (presently eight)*
- *Deals with disorderly conduct of public and members at Meetings*
- *Deals with appointments to committees – Group System*

Part 7 deals with Committees and Joint Committees

- *SPC's – will consist of Members/non members*
- *Deals with Area Committees*
- *Cathaoirleach of Town Council to be member of Area Committee*
- *Joint Committee of Local Authorities may be established*

Part 8 deals with Local Authority Boundary Alteration

- *County Council, City Council or Town Council may make proposal to alter its boundary*
- *Must notify other Local Authorities and await their response (6 months to respond)*
- *Must issue public notice and invite submissions.*
- *Submit proposal to Local Government Commission*
- *Commission make decision on whether request is inappropriate or makes report to Minister*
- *Decision by Minister is final.*

Part 9 deals with functions of Local Authorities (5 Chapters)

Chapter 1 deals with general functions

Chapter 2 deals with ceremonial functions

Chapter 3 deals with Library and Archival functions

Chapter 4 deals with Non Public Roads (L.I.S.) - no changes

Chapter 5 deals with transfer of functions under Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts:-

- *Water Supply and Waste Treatment Functions brought under County Councils i.e. water and sewerage schemes transfer from UDC to County Council.*

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

- Minister may make regulations to cover financial adjustments between County Council and UDC.

Part 10 deals with agreements and arrangements concerning functions

- Continues existing arrangement whereby one Local Authority can enter into an agreement to perform a function on behalf of another Local Authority
- Minister can direct Local Authorities to do so

Part 11 deals with the establishment of Local Government Commission to make recommendations as regards:-

- Alteration of Local Authority Boundaries
- Local Electoral Areas
- Number of elected members
- Application for establishment of Town Council

Part 12 deals with financial procedures and audit

- Requires Local Authorities to maintain local fund into which monies received are paid
- Local Authorities required to make necessary banking arrangements
- There will be a County charge instead of County Demand
- Local Authorities shall prepare draft Budget
- Manager shall consult with Corporate Policy Group in the preparation of Annual Budget
- Estimates Meeting to be renamed Budget Meeting
- Abstract of Accounts to be renamed Annual Financial Statement

Part 12 also deals with Community Initiatives:

- Local Authorities may set up a separate "Community Fund" to promote community initiatives
- Contributions from communities/business/local authorities may be paid into fund
- As a separate proposal Local Authorities may by resolution – adopt a "Community Initiative Scheme" under which it may collect an annual contribution from each household
- Draft scheme must: describe initiatives, annual contribution, waivers, be published, submissions invited and a plebiscite is optional
- Half total number of members must vote in favour of scheme and decide on contribution to be levied
- If contribution is not paid – can be recovered by Court proceedings.

Part 12 also deals with Audit:

- Local Government Audit Service to be established in D.O.E.L.G.

Monthly Meeting – 23/10/2000

- Director of Audit to oversee audit service
- Minister may issue code of Audit practice
- Auditor to give opinion and report on Annual Financial Statement
- Auditor may address the elected members
- Local Authorities may establish Audit Committee

Part 13 deals with Local Authorities and Local Community:

- Underlines need for Local Authorities to maintain contact and consult with communities and promote participation in Local Government
- Local Authorities may hold information meetings on any important issue
- Provides for the establishment of City/County Development Boards.

Part 14 deals with the Local Government Service

- Provides framework for carrying out Local Authority Functions
- Provides for the policy role of Members
- Deals with reserved functions of Members
- Provides for the establishment of Corporate Policy Groups
- C.P.G. may request report from Manager on any matter
- C.P.G. to be consulted re: Corporate Plan
- Manager to put 3 year Capital Programme before Council each year.
- Other business may take precedence over Section 4
- Section 4 cannot be used to prevent performance of certain functions
- Deals with expenses and remuneration for Cathaoirleach, Leas-Cathaoirleach and Members
- Deals with post of County/City Manager – appointment, duties, delegation
- End to Minister's role to individual staff matters

Part 15 deals with the Ethical Framework for the Local Government Service

- Duty of every member and employee to maintain proper standards of integrity, conduct and concern for the public interest
- Replaces provisions in Planning Acts as regards declaration of interests
- Minister may issue codes of conduct
- Members/employees are prohibited from seeking/accepting rewards
- Ethics Registrar to be appointed by Manager
- Members/Employees must make annual declaration of interest. Public register of interests to be established and available for inspection. It should include:
 - Annual Declaration of Members/Employees/Manager
 - "ad hoc" disclosures by Members/Manager/Employees who have a material or beneficial interest in any resolution or function of Local Authority
 - In the latter case it includes interest of the person or "connected person" i.e. Brother, Sister, Parent or spouse of the person or child of the person or of the spouse

Part 17 deals with new Town Councils

- *Town with population in excess of 7,500 may apply to County Council for Town Council status*
- *100 electors must sign proposal*
- *£1,000 deposit*
- *Financial implications must be taken into account and map drawn up showing boundaries of town*
- *County Council to publish notice inviting submissions*
- *County Council may accept/reject proposal*
- *In either case, submit to Local Government Commission*

Part 20 deals with public Local Inquiries

- *Minister may hold public local inquiries*
- *Inspector appointed*
- *Enquiry into performance of functions of Local Authorities*

Part 21 deals with failure to perform functions

After holding inquiry Minister may

- *Remove members from office*
- *Appoint a Commissioner*

The County Secretary explained that there were 14 schedules at the end of the Bill dealing with various issues.

The Cathaoirleach and Members complimented Mr. Kavanagh on the comprehensive presentation given by him.

Councillor T. Walsh said that the proposal to elect Cathaoirleach/Mayors directly would be seen as a bad decision in hindsight in years to come. He said that Councillors should retain authority to elect their own chairperson and didn't agree with changing the existing system. He also referred to the matter of remuneration for Councillors saying that it is almost a full-time job now. Councillor P. McHugh asked if Directly Elected Chairpersons could contest a seat also.

Councillor Fahy welcomed the Bill and said that it gave great recognition to members of local authorities. He was delighted to see that the Local Elections will take place every five years and also welcomed the proposal for a salary for members.

Councillor Gavin said that community involvement/community initiatives came out very strong in the Local Government Bill and this was to be welcomed provided it didn't have a negative result.

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An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain welcomed the proposals in the Bill. However, he was surprised that there was so little discussion on such an important document and that there was very little interest displayed in it. He felt that it was important that Members consider this document very carefully. It was a great step forward in local government renewal. He proposed that if the Council had suggested amendments to certain sections of the Bill, these should be sent to the Department.

Councillor Joyce welcomed the legislation and in particular the sections dealing with filling of casual vacancies and the ethical framework for the Local Government Service. He also welcomed the provisions dealing with the twinning of Local Authorities and the fact that LAMA and General Council of County Councils will be given statutory recognition. However, he had difficulty with section 169 where Members are prohibited from accepting even a token reward as this could result in people being technically guilty of an offence.

Councillor Hynes welcomed the Bill and especially the much needed reform of Town Councils.

Councillor McClearn welcomed some of the proposals i.e. Community involvement, holding of Elections every five years, but said that it was a missed opportunity as the Bill only deals with "house-keeping" issues. He said that the Bill does not address the inadequacies in the Local Government System and that the system is more a system of local administration than local government. He asked why was it not proposed in the Bill to diminish the Minister's influence over local government. He said that the payment of salary for Councillors is conditional on acceptance of the Bill and this would mean acceptance of the Minister's terms. He said that the Bill does not deal with the substantial issue of Local Government Reform and should be rejected.

Councillor O'Sullivan said that he would like to have seen some reform in the area of the Register of Electors. Councillor T. Mannion said that people should be able to vote at the Polling Station of their choice and this area should be updated.

Councillor Connolly congratulated the Minister on his attempt to implement local government reform. He said that Councillors are providing a full-time service and are not being paid or reimbursed for service provided.

Councillor Mullins said that this is a very comprehensive document but the Minister had lost a real opportunity to do something worthwhile with local government. He said that there was not enough additional powers devolved to local authorities. He welcomed the area dealing with Ethics in Public Office. He said that the Members should continue to fight for the retention of the election system of Cathaoirleach from among its own members and it would be a retrograde step to go away from that.

In reply to some of the queries the County Secretary said that Town Councils would retain their present functions except that water and sewerage functions would transfer from U.D.C.'s to County Councils.

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He said that if the Directly Elected Chairperson is not a member of the Local Authority already, the number of members is increased by one. If elected Chairperson/Mayor, he/she holds office for five years.

In reply to Councillor McHugh's query, the County Secretary said that if a Member was involved in a contract (to value of £5,000 plus) with a Local Authority, during the relevant period, this would be a declarable interest.

In reply to a query on Section 4's, the Secretary said that the number of members required to sign a Section 4 motion has gone from 3 to 5, but the power remains the same.

In reply to Councillor T. Mannion's query regarding polling stations, the County Secretary said that a new Polling Scheme had been put in place prior to the last Local Elections following a wide public consultation process.

Councillor T. Mannion proposed that the Members contact their Oireachtas Members and set out their proposed amendments to the Bill.

Following discussion, It was agreed that any amendments to the Bill which Members wish to propose should be forwarded to the County Secretary by 3rd November 2000 in order to be circulated with the Agenda for the following Meeting.

IT WAS DECIDED TO TAKE ITEM NO. 9 NEXT

NOMINATION OF COUNCILLORS TO JOIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ANTI-POVERTY LEARNING NETWORK

779

A Report dated 17th October 2000 was circulated to each Member. The County Secretary explained to the Members that a Local Government Anti-Poverty Learning Network is being established by the Combat Poverty Agency in collaboration with the Department of the Environment and Local Government and the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) Unit in the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. He said that Local Authorities were being asked to indicate if they are interested in becoming involved in the network. The group will comprise representatives of Local Authorities throughout the country. He said that Galway County Council were anxious to participate and proposed nominating two Councillors and two Officials.

Councillor Loughnane proposed that three Councillors be nominated to join this Committee and this was agreed by the Members.

It was proposed by Councillor Loughnane, seconded by Councillor Cunningham and agreed that Councillor T. Mannion be nominated.

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It was proposed by Councillor Loughnane, seconded by Councillor Cunningham and agreed that Councillor M. Connolly be nominated.

It was proposed by Councillor McClearn, seconded by Councillor T. Walsh and agreed that Councillor J. Burke be nominated.

As a result of the foregoing the Members nominated to the Local Government Anti-Poverty Learning Network are as follows:-

1. Councillor Tomas Mannion, Shruffane, Caltra, Ballinasloe
2. Councillor Michael Connolly, Moyloughmore, Moylough, Ballinasloe
3. Councillor Joe Burke, The Old Presbytery, Tuam, Co. Galway

APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF CLIFDEN 780

On the proposal of Councillor Conneely, seconded by An Comhairleoir O Neachtain, it was agreed to extend the time for the review of the development plan for the scheduled town of Clifden to 31/03/2001.

CONFERENCES 781

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

Recycling & Waste Management Training Course –Dublin & Cork – 17/11/00; 23/11/00; 1/12/00 & 7/12/00

<i>Cllr. P. Hynes</i>	<i>Cllr. J. Callanan</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Cunningham</i>
<i>Cllr. S. O'Neachtain</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Hoade</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Connolly</i>
<i>Cllr. J. Conneely</i>		

I.H.B.A. Conference – Dublin – 10/11/00

<i>Cllr. M. Loughnane</i>	<i>Cllr. J. Callanan</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Fahy</i>
<i>Cllr. M. Cunningham</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Regan</i>	<i>Cllr. S. O'Neachtain</i>
<i>Cllr. T. Mannion</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Hoade</i>	<i>Cllr. K. Quinn</i>
<i>Cllr. P. McHugh</i>	<i>Cllr. M. Connolly</i>	<i>Cllr. T. Rabbitt</i>
<i>Cllr. J. Conneely</i>	<i>Cllr. S. Walsh</i>	<i>Sen. J. McDonagh</i>
<i>Cllr. T. McHugh</i>	<i>Cllr. T. Walsh</i>	<i>Cllr. P. Hynes</i>
<i>Cllr. P. O'Foighil</i>	<i>Cllr. N. Grealish</i>	

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Assoc. of Irish Regions – Waterford – 10/11 November 2000

Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. M. Cunningham	Cllr. M. Regan
Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. J. Joyce	Cllr. M. Hoade
Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. T. Walsh
Cllr. T. McHugh	Cllr. M. Mullins	Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta

BMW Regional Assembly Conference – Roscommon – 2nd November 2000

Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan	Cllr. M. Hoade
Cllr. K. Quinn	Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Connolly
Cllr. T. McHugh	Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	

12th National Tourism Conference – Ennistymon – 24/25 November 2000

Cllr. J. Callanan	Cllr. S. O'Neachtain	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan
Cllr. T. Mannion	Cllr. J. Joyce	Cllr. M. Hoade
Cllr. K. Quinn	Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Connolly
Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	

MANAGERS BUSINESS

782

To fix date for Official Opening for Development of Square in Clifden

The Manager requested that a date be fixed for the official opening for the development of the Square in Clifden. The Members agreed that the proposed date would be discussed at the Connemara Area Meeting.

New National Pay Agreement (Programme for Prosperity and Fairness)

The County Secretary advised the Members that the new National Pay Agreement (Programme for Prosperity and Fairness) came into effect on 1st October 2000 and applies to all local authority workers. He advised that the Pay Agreement provides for 3 main pay increases as follows:-

5.5% of basic pay for the first 12 months of the Agreement as it applies in each particular employment or industry;

5.5% of basic pay for the second 12 months of the Agreement as it applies in each particular employment or industry;

4% of basic pay for the next 9 months of the Agreement as it applies in each particular employment or industry.

Payment of the third stage is subject to certain conditions.

The County Secretary asked for the Council's approval to the implementation of the Agreement and to the implementation of the Department of the Environment and Local Government Circular Letter EL9/00, authorising a further 3% increase in basic pay from 1st October 2000, in accordance with the "Early Settlers" Agreement.

On the proposal of An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by Councillor T. Mannion, the Council approved of the implementation of the pay increases outlined in the report of the County Secretary.

CATHAOIRLEACHS' BUSINESS

783

An Cathaoirleach referred to a recent article in the Irish Times regarding an interview given by the Minister for the Environment and Local Government. The article stated that the Minister would have power, by reducing the rates support grant to local authorities to pass on fines imposed by the European Commission for failure to implement the 1993 EU directive on waste management. A copy of the article was circulated to each Member.

Lights for Life Campaign

*An Cathaoirleach as a member of the Road Safety Committee advised the Members that the National Safety Council were asking motorists to make a special effort to minimise road fatalities over the Bank Holiday Weekend. In the **Lights for Life** campaign which is aimed at encouraging road users to think about road safety, all motorists, cyclists and motorcyclists are asked to drive with dipped headlights on during daylight hours over the holiday period.*

Councillor T. Mannion referred to the dispute at the Dubarry Footwear Factory in Ballinasloe and said that he hoped a resolution would be found soon.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain asked if the Council was looking for land in the Spiddal area. He asked as a local councillor to be kept informed of all developments and not when it has become a fait accompli. He said that if the Council are thinking of building houses in Spiddal, there are a number of considerations to be taken into account as it is a Gaeltacht area. He said that he believed that the provision of a Council Housing Scheme would ruin the fabric of this Gaeltacht Village.

In reply, Mr. J. Tierney said that the Council is looking for land in Spiddal. He said that it would be impossible to keep Members informed of proposals for land purchases while at the same time conducting negotiations for land. He confirmed that the Council had not put a bid on any land in Spiddal. The County Manager said that the Minister has urged Local Authorities to speed up the Housing Programme and he said it would be impossible to have discussions with Members about land that would come on the market for housing.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 12 – ROAD – DEPUTY. U. BURKE 784

The following reply was given to Deputy U. Burke:

"This road is approximately 2½ miles long. There are a number of bends which need to be eased. It would cost approximately £85,000 to ease the worst bends and there are no funds available at present to carry out the work."

N.O.M. NO. 13 –TRAFFIC CONTROL- DEPUTY. U. BURKE 785

The following reply was given to Deputy U. Burke:

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

N.O.M. NO. 14 – LIGHTING – DEPUTY. U. BURKE 786

The following reply was given to Deputy U. Burke:

"It is proposed to erect three lights adjacent to the Church as part of a future Village Renewal Scheme."

N.O.M. NO.15 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 787

The following reply was given to Cllr. M. Cunningham:

"A sewerage scheme for Kinvara is included on the current Assessment of Needs at priority No. 12 for the period 2002 – 2006".

N.O.M. NO. 16 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 788

The following reply was given to Cllr. M. Cunningham:

"A sewerage scheme for Kilcolgan is included on the Assessment of Needs for the period of 2007 to 2018. A proposal is under consideration to extend the Tuam RWSS – Stage 3 water supply to Oranmore, Clarinbridge and Kilcolgan."

N.O.M. NO.17 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 789

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham:

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"A Sewerage scheme for Clarinbridge is included on the Assessment of Needs at priority No. 9 for the period 20002 – 2006".

N.O.M. NO. 18 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. FAHY 790

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:

"Contract Documents are currently being prepared for Craughwell Water Supply Scheme under the Rural Towns and Villages Initiative. A sewerage scheme for Craughwell is included in the Assessment of Needs – Water Infrastructure for the period 2002 to 2006".

N.O.M. NO. 19 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. FAHY 791

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:

"A sewerage scheme for Kilcolgan is included in the Assessment of Needs – Water Services Infrastructure for the period 2007 to 2018. The Consultant Engineers are currently examining a proposal to extend the water supply from Oranmore to Clarinbridge and Kilcolgan".

N.O.M. NO. 20 – CEMETERY – CLLR. M. FAHY 792

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy:

"Due to the proximity of the proposed extension to the National Monument (which is in State Care) it will be necessary to carry out an Archaeological Survey of the site which will have to be forwarded to Dúchas for their consideration. These steps will have to be carried out and completed before any development can be considered".

N.O.M. NO. 21 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. J. JOYCE 793

The following reply was given to Cllr. Joyce:

"A sewerage scheme for Eyrecourt is included on the Assessment of Needs – water infrastructure for the period 2002 – 2006"

N.O.M. NO. 22 – LIGHTING – CLLR. J. JOYCE 794

The following reply was given to Cllr. Joyce:

"The school is located inside the speed limit and warning lights are not usually installed inside speed limits."

N.O.M. NO.23 – ROADS – CLLR. J. JOYCE 795

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The following reply was given to Cllr. Joyce:

"Considerable funds have been spent on this road in recent years. It is not proposed to carry out further works in 2001. However, consideration will be given to additional works in 2002."

N.O.M. NO.24 – ROADS – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 796

The following reply was given to Cllr. Loughnane:

"The road edges have been damaged at a number of locations along this road. It is hoped to attend to them in the coming weeks."

N.O.M. NO.25 – FLOODING – CLLR. J. McCLEARN 797

The following reply was given to Cllr. McClearn:

"It is proposed to carry out remedial works on the road. However, most of the flooding at the three houses affected is caused by the fact that the sites are low lying and the water is coming from the surrounding land. The council would consider carrying out remedial work to alleviate the situation at the houses if the owners were prepared to make the necessary contribution. One householder has agreed to this and the matter is being pursued with another. The Council would bear the cost in respect of the Council house affected."

N.O.M. NO. 26 – ROADS – SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 798

The following reply was given to Senator McDonagh:

"This work will have to be funded by the National Roads Authority as it is part of a National Secondary Route. A submission will be made to National Roads Authority requesting funds."

N.O.M. NO. 27 – LIGHTING – SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 799

The following reply was given to Senator J. McDonagh:

"The completion of Traffic Route Lighting at Turloughmore will take priority over Lackagh unless available funds allow otherwise."

N.O.M. NO. 28 – ROADS - SENATOR J. MCDONAGH 800

The following reply was given to Senator J. McDonagh:

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"This is part of National Secondary Road N.84 and works will have to be funded by the National Roads Authority. A design will be prepared and a submission will be made to National Roads Authority for funds."

N.O.M. NO. 29 – ROADS – CLLR. P. MCHUGH 801

The following reply was given to Cllr. P. Mchugh:

"The construction of a box junction at this location is not appropriate."

N.O.M. NO. 30 – LIGHTING – CLLR. P. MCHUGH 802

The following reply was given to Cllr. P. Mchugh:

"The lighting in question has been erected to the end of the 40 m.p.h speed limit."

N.O.M. NO. 31 – BÓTHAR – COMH. C. NÍ FHATHARTA 803

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta:

"Tá sé ar intinn an uchtbhalla thar an tóchar seo a chuir siar i rith an gheimhridh seo chugainn."

N.O.M. NO. 32 – BÓTHAR – COMH. C. NÍ FHATHARTA 804

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta:

"Scrúdófar an scéal agus beidh freagra ar fáil le haghaidh an chéad cruinniú eile".

N.O.M. NO. 33 – SOILSÍ - COMH. C. NÍ FHATHARTA 805

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir Ní Fhatharta:

"Cuirfear suas soilsí poiblí ag an láthar seo chomh luath agus is féidir."

N.O.M. NO. 34 – SEIRBHISÍ – COMH. O NEACHTAIN 806

Seo leanas an fregra a tugadh do'n Comhairleoir S. O' Neachtain:

"Pléadh an cheist seo ag cruinniú den Corporate Policy Group le déanaí agus beidh tuairisc ón gcrúinniú sin ag teacht ós comhair an Comhairle go luath."

N.O.M. NO. 35 - LIGHTING – CLLR. S. O' NEACHTAIN 807

The following written reply was given to Cllr. O' Neachtain:

"A traffic survey will be carried out to establish if the location meets the Department of Environment warrant for a controlled pedestrian crossing."

N.O.M. NO. 36 – BÓTHAR – COMH. S. O' NEACHTAIN 808

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

"Táimid ag súil go glanfar na driseacha agus fásra eile ag an láthair seo an seachtain seo chugainn. Nuair atá an obair sin déanta beidh níos mó spás páircála ar fáil".

N.O.M. NO. 37 - FLOODING – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN 809

The following written reply was given to Cllr. P. O' Sullivan:

"Remedial works will be carried out in the near future".

N.O.M. NO. 38 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN 810

The following written reply was given to Cllr. P. O' Sullivan:

"It is proposed to carry out remedial work at this location shortly."

N.O.M. NO. 39 – FLOODING – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN 811

The following written reply was given to Cllr. P. O' Sullivan:

"Remedial works will be carried out at this location shortly."

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, approved & signed

Connie Ni Phatharta
Chairperson.

18-12-2000

Date:

STAMP DUTY

763

Cllr. T. McHugh proposed that the Council support the Association to Protect Housing in the Border, Midlands and West Region in its campaign to reduce stamp duty on second houses from 9% as proposed in the 3rd Bacon Report to 3%. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. McDonagh and agreed.

CONGRATULATIONS

764

The Cathaoirleach congratulated the Galway Football Team on it's display in the All-Ireland Football Final. Councillor T. Walsh also congratulated the team and management. He referred to an article in the Tuam Herald regarding to the allocation of tickets to Councillors. He said that he disagreed with this article in that the Councillors were not looking for free tickets. Cllr. Fahy also congratulated the Galway Team and Management and extended best wishes to Noel Lane on his appointment as manager of the Galway Senior Hurling Team. Cllr. Joyce congratulated the McElroy family Ballinasloe on Patrick McElroy's achievement in coaching the British rowing team to success in the Sydney Olympics.

Referring to the All-Ireland Tickets the County Secretary said that there was no question of Councillors looking for free tickets and that members paid for their tickets on all occasions.

PRESENTATION BY G.E.A.L (GALWAY ENERGY AGENCY LTD.)

765

Mr. Peter Keavney, Manager, made a presentation to the members on the role of the Galway Energy Agency Ltd. He said that the agency had been established in March 1997 as an initiative of Galway Corporation with financial support from EU Save II Programme. Local supporting partners included Galway County Council, E.S.B., Údarás na Gaeltachta, and the Irish Energy Centre. He said that the role of the Agency is to provide public information and awareness on energy conversation issues and to support the development of renewable energy projects within the Galway region.

The E.U. contract was for a period of three years and the Agency is now seeking other potential funding partners in order to retain the Agency and its activities within the region.

He made reference to the following Objectives and Activities of the Agency:

- Information & Awareness
- Regional Domestic Energy Programme
- Renewable Energy Programme
- Regional Energy Balance Database
- Social Energy Policies
- Energy Management Services
- Energy Education & Training
- Energy Links & Collaboration.

The Cathaoirleach and members thanked Mr. Keavney for his presentation.

CONSTRUCTION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES AT KILLALOONTY, WEIR ROAD, TUAM. 766

Mr. D. Barrett informed the members that the procedures required by the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations 1994 had been complied with in relation to the Council's proposal to erect 28 Local Authority dwellings and services at Killalooonty, Weir Road, Tuam. He said that two submissions had been received and had been circulated to the members together with the Council's response. The proposal had been discussed in detail at Tuam Area Committee Meeting held earlier that day. The proposed Local Authority Houses are to be constructed in two phases, the first phase comprising 14 houses to be constructed in 2001.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh seconded by Cllr. J. Burke the County Council approved the proposal.

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY, TOWNLAND OF CAHEROYAN FOR PERMISSION TO CONSTRUCT 14 APARTMENTS, 9 DWELLING HOUSES AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES AT CAHEROYAN, ATHENRY. PLANNING REF. No. 00/1690 767

APPLICANT: C Well Homes Ltd

Mr. Liam Kavanagh S.E.E. read details as per report dated 11/10/00 which had been circulated to the members.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: The proposed development is for the construction of 14 apartments, 9 dwellinghouses and associated services at Caheroyan, Athenry

LOCATION: The site is located in the townland of Caheroyan and its main frontage is onto the Monivea at the Y junction close to Caheroyan House.

PLANNING HISTORY: 98/4021 – Permission was granted in December 1999 for a housing development, 13 no. dwellinghouses and associated services to Mr J.J. Brady. Due to the agricultural zoning at that time a Material Contravention of the Athenry Town Plan, was passed in order to permit the proposed development.

ASSESSMENT: This site is now within lands which are zoned for “primarily residential use” adhering to the current Athenry Town Draft Development Plan (1999). This use would be consistent with the proposed use. The density proposed and the overall design of the development would be compatible with the existing development at this location.

There is an Archaeological feature within the site, reference no. GA 084-034 of the Sites and Monuments Record but condition no. 14 recommends that an Archaeological assessment be carried out.

The site has an area of 0.6 hectares (1.48 Acres) and it has adequate car parking and open space to serve the development.

ZONING: The proposed development is on lands zoned “primarily residential use” in the current Athenry Town Draft Development Plan (1999).

OBJECTIONS: No objections were received.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that permission be granted to materially contravene the Athenry Town Draft Development Plan (1999).

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 1st September, 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 31st October, 2000.

Deputy U. Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by C Well Homes Ltd. for for the construction of 14 apartments, 9 dwellinghouses and associated services at Caheroyan, Athenry planning reference no. 00-1690, and having considered the Report dated 11th October, 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. Cllr. P. Hynes seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON: Cllr. Joe Burke, Deputy Ulick Burke, Cllr. Joe Callanan, Deputy Paul Connaughton, Cllr. Michael Connolly, Cllr. Michael Fahy, Cllr. Noel Grealish, Cllr. S. Gavin, Cllr. Mary Hoade, Cllr. P. Hynes, Cllr. James Joyce, Cllr. Matt Loughnane, Cllr. J.J. Mannion, Cllr. Tomás Mannion, Cllr. Paddy McHugh, Cllr. Tom McHugh, Cllr. Michael Mullins, Cllr. Connie Ní Fhatharta, Cllr. Sean O Neachtain, Cllr. Pat O Sullivan, Cllr. Kathleen Quinn, Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh (22)

IN AGHAIDH: -----

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried.

ASSESSMENT OF WATER NEEDS

768

Mr. Jack Eising A/S.E.E. referred to the Water Services Assessment of Need document which had been circulated to the members, and he referred in particular to the following:-

- a) Water & Sewerage Investment Programme 2000 to 20002
- b) Water & Sewerage Schemes for the period 2002 to 2006
- c) Water & Sewerage Schemes for the period 2007 to 2018

He said that the total estimated cost of this investment programme was £284.35 million. The members of the Council welcomed the report and complimented Mr. Eising and Mr. T. Connell A.O. for producing the report and for their efforts in ensuring that it's aims and objectives would be achieved. They referred to the fact that small rural sewerage schemes for small villages should be encouraged. Members made comments and recommendations in relation to the report as follows:

Councillor Quinn:

- Grant to up-grade septic tanks should be made available.

Councillor Connolly:

- Stressed the need to accelerate programme especially in relation to sewerage.
- Not enough funding from central government.
- Development is being hindered in Milltown, Dunmore and Mountbellew due to lack of sewerage facilities.

Comhairleoir O Neachtain:

- Providing water for South Conamara is a priority – in this regard he referred to the Conamara Environmental Project.
- Where there is no existing infrastructure for water supply it should be given priority.
- Water shortage in Carroroe.
- No water supply in Rosmuc and Gorumna.
- Treatment works needed in Spiddal as village is increasing rapidly.
- Why delay with preliminary report on Kilronan?
- Who is doing preliminary report for Barna. What is it's present position?

Councillor O Sullivan:

- What is up-to-date position on Aughrim sewerage scheme.

Councillor Loughnane:

- Why no progress on Craughwell Water and Sewerage Schemes.

Deputy U. Burke:

- Disappointed at recent report that Loughrea can't develop because of lack of water and sewerage facilities.
- Lift embargo on people getting an individual Well Grant in situation where scheme is proposed but has not started.
- Small villages should get sewerage treatment works to cater for development
- He welcomed rate of upgrading of group water schemes.

Councillor T. Walsh:

- Need for further improvement of water supply in Glenamaddy.
- Cloonminda water supply scheme is seeking connection to Glenamaddy public scheme.

Councillor J. Joyce:

- What is commencement date for Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply Scheme advance section, which will serve Eyrecourt and Laurencetown?
- What is present position re improved water supply and sewerage scheme for Menlough?
- Up grading works should be carried out on Eyrecourt sewerage scheme.

Councillor J.J Mannion:

- No action for years on preliminary reports on Clifden, Cleggan, Claddaghduff, Roundstone and Tullycross - Government not taking care of this area.

Councillor M. Hoade:

- What is present position in relation to Headford Sewerage Scheme?

Councillor P. Hynes:

- Extension of Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme to Craughwell is urgent.
- What is present position in relation to extending Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme East of the Town?

Councillor S. Gavin:

- Oughterard is totally neglected due to lack of treatment facilities.
- What is present position regarding Moycullen sewerage scheme?

Councillor T. Mannion:

- Caltra and Castleblakeney should be allowed to develop by the provision of a sewerage scheme.
- Menlough has no sewerage scheme and water source is polluted.

Councillor J. Callanan:

- What is present position regarding water supply for Kilrickle.
- Thanked County Manager for interest in Kilconnell sewerage scheme and hoped that it will be pursued to completion as soon as possible.

Councillor M. Fahy:

- Regional Water Supply Scheme for Gort is urgent.
- What is present position on Kinvara Sewerage Scheme?

Councillor M. Mullins:

- Referred to the lack of facilities in Eyrecourt, Menlough, NewInn, Killconnell and Aughrim.
- People should be encouraged to live in small villages.

Mr. Eising addressed the queries raised in the context of the programme of works planned by the Council. Mr. Nelson, Assistant County Manager, advised the meeting of the change in the funding for the construction of capital schemes whereby in future the Polluter Pays Principle" will apply and the non-domestic costs of the scheme must be borne by the consumer concerned. In reply to Deputy Burke Mr. Nelson said that if grants are given to individual wells, group schemes may never get going in an area. He said that the Council will write to DOELG in relation to this matter.

The County Engineer informed the members that consultants had prepared a Draft Strategic Rural Water Plan for the County. This Plan will set out water policies for the County and will be brought forward to the members.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2000

769

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

770

The Cathaoirleach complimented Mr. Tony Murphy on the production of the Annual Report which had been circulated to the members.

CATHAOIRLEACH BUSINESS

771(a)

In reply to Cllr. Mullins, the County Engineer said that design documents and a request for funds for Caher Cross on the N6, east of Aughrim, had been sent to the N.R.A.

In reply to a query the County Secretary informed Cllr. J. Burke that Councillors would be free to make submissions to the consultant involved in reviewing the Housing and Planning sections of the Council.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved & Signed

Connie N. Phalhartha

Chairperson

18-12-2000

Date.

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE ON MONDAY 25TH
SEPTEMBER, 2000**

Cathaoirleach

An Comhlairleoir C. Ni Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FREISIN;

Baill:

Cllr J. Burke, Deputy U. Burke, Cllr. J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, J. J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, P. O'Foighil, S. O' Neachtain, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, Tim Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh

Oifigih:-

Messrs. D. Nelson, Deputy Co. Manager, J. Tierney, Assistant County Manager, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, R. Killeen, Deputy County Engineer, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, Ms B. McDermott, A/A.O., Messrs. D. Barrett, A.O. T. Connell, A.O. L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., M. Jordan, A/S.S.O. Cuimin Mac Aodh Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge

Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

721

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mr. Jack Higgins & Family, Cregclare, Ardrahan, Co. Galway.
Máirín agus Mícheal O Droighnéain, Baile Eamoinn, An Spideál, Co. na Gaillimhe.
Noel Treacy T.D. & Family, Minister for Science & Technology, Gurteen, Ballinasloe.

CONGRATULATIONS

722

The Cathaoirleach opened the meeting by congratulating the Galway Minor Hurling Team on winning the All-Ireland Final. She wished the Galway Senior Football team the best of luck in the All-Ireland Replay on Saturday the 7th October, 00. She also congratulated Sonia O'Sullivan on winning a silver medal at the Sydney Olympics.

The Cathaoirleach then informed the meeting that Declan Nelson was leaving the Council to take up the position of County Manager in Monaghan County Council. The Members thanked Mr Nelson for his service to Galway County Council. Mr J. Tierney, congratulated Declan Nelson on behalf of the staff of the Council and wished him every success in his new post. The Deputy County Manager thanked the Councillors and said that it was an honour and a privilege to work for Galway County Council.

The Cathaoirleach wished Keith Kelly, Reporter Galway Advertiser the best of luck in his new position with the Limerick Post.

ALL IRELAND FOOTBALL TICKETS

723

Councillor T. Walsh expressed disappointment that every Councillor had not been able to get a ticket for the All Ireland Football Final. The County Secretary explained that the Council had received only six tickets from the G.A.A. and that he had already written requesting tickets for Councillors for the Replay on the 7th October, 00. Councillor T. Mannion said that a lot of genuine supporters had been unable to get tickets for the Final.

MINUTES

724

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 10th July, 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Hoade.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 14th July, 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor J. Burke.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 24th July, 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Connolly.

Arising out of the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 24th July, 00 Deputy U. Burke said that there were omissions in the Town Renewal Scheme for Loughrea and requested an appeal be made to the Minister for Environment and Local Government. Mr. J. Tierney, Assistant County Manager explained that when this same debate arose with regard to the 1987 Tuam Integrated Area Plan the Department would not review the Plan. The Town Renewal Scheme was submitted to the Department on the approval of the Council and there was no point submitting details of properties that were not in the original submission. In reply to a query by Deputy Connaughton re the lack of rent allowances in smaller areas the Assistant County Manager said that the Department guidelines specified that there would be no double rent allowance. Councillor Regan said that the 9% Rate of Stamp Duty applicable to Investors and the 2% Annual Property Tax had huge implications for rural Ireland. Councillor J. Burke said that the Tuam plan is not having the desired effect and that proper benefits have been withdrawn from the West of Ireland. The Assistant County Manager said that there was a lot of consultation on the Town Renewal Scheme and that Department criteria had to be adhered to and every effort should be made to avail of the incentives.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 1st September, 2000 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor Mullins, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

Arising from the Minutes of the 1st September, 00, Councillor Connolly asked for clarification on Section 22 of the Waste Management Act. The Deputy Manager explained that the members proposals in relation to the Draft Waste Management Plan for the Connaught Region had been referred to the Law Agent and Cllr. Connolly's query would be referred also.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

725

The report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 9th May, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Mullins.

The report on the Rural Water Monitoring Committee meeting held on the 28th June, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Connolly, seconded by an Comhairleoir O'Foighil.

The report on the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 4th July, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor T. Mannion.

The Report on the Galway Transportation and Planning Study meeting held on the 7th July, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by Deputy Connaughton.

The report on the Joint meeting with Galway Corporation regarding proposed Galway City Outer By-Pass/Western Approach R336 Link held on the 7th July, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor J. J. Mannion, seconded by Councillor Callanan.

The Report on the Connemara Area Committee Meeting held on the 10th July, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of an Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by Councillor Conneely.

Councillor Gavin and other Councillors raised the matter of the Fire Services on Inis Mór. They asked that the Chief Fire Officer be present at the Council meeting when the topic of Fire Services on the Islands is being discussed.

The Report on the Connemara Area Committee Meeting held on the 28th July, 2000 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Gavin, seconded by an Comhairleoir O'Foighil.

It was agreed that Items No. 6 and No. 7 would be dealt with next.

726

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA AND ENVIRONS FOR OUTLINE PERMISSION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 25 NO. DWELLING HOUSES AND FULL PLANNING PERMISSION FOR SITE DEVELOPMENT WORKS AND SEWAGE EFFLUENT TREATMENT PLANT AT UPPER CUSCARRICK, LOUGHREA, CO. GALWAY. PLANNING REF. NO. 00/3031

APPLICANT: Mrs. Emily Stanley

Cllr. M. Regan declared an interest and left the Chamber while this matter was being considered.

Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following report dated 25th September, 2000 which has been circulated to the Members.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: The proposed development involves outline planning permission for 25 no. dwellinghouses and full permission for site development works and sewage effluent treatment plant.

LOCATION: The site is located in the townland of Cuscarrick with road frontage onto the Gort Road and also onto the Cuscarrick Upper road.

PREVIOUS HISTORY: A similar application was submitted last year under planning ref. no. 99/4193 but was withdrawn because the proposal to discharge effluent directly from the estate into the existing sewage system was deemed premature and unacceptable pending the completion of the major works currently in hand on the Loughrea Sewage Treatment Works.

ASSESSMENT: The site is zoned for agricultural development in the current Loughrea Town Plan but is zoned for residential development in the Draft Plan for Loughrea and environs. Direct discharge to the public sewer is possible but a temporary treatment plant is proposed on site, with the treated effluent discharging to the public sewer. The Sanitary Services Department have no objection to this proposal. There are 2 no. separate access points for the development. Seven houses would exit onto the Gort road inside the 40 mph speed limit. Senior Executive Engineer, (Road Design) has no objection. The other 18 no. houses would exit onto the County road at Cuscarrick Upper. The density proposed and the provision of amenity open space is acceptable.

OBJECTIONS: No objections or submissions were received.

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 22nd August 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 21st October 2000.

Cllr MI Fahy proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mrs Emily Stanley for outline permission for the construction of 25 no. dwellinghouses and full permission for site development works and sewage effluent treatment plant in the townland of Cuscarrick, Loughrea, Co. Galway, Planning ref. no. 00/3031, and having considered the Report dated 25th September, 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 be made in the case of this application to grant Outline Planning Permission for the construction of 25 no. dwelling houses and Full Planning Permission for site development works and effluent treatment plant at Upper Cuscarrick, Loughrea. Cllr. P. Hynes seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

Ar Son:

Comh. Seos. De Burca, Teachta Ulick De Burca, Comh. S. O Callanáin, Teachta P. O Connachtáin, Comh. Micheál O conghaile, Comh. Seos. O Conghaile, Comh. M. O Cuinneagain, Comh. M. O Fathaigh, Comh. S. O Gabhain, Comh. M. Ní Hodach, Comh. P. O h-Eidhin, Comh S. Seoighe, Comh. J.J Mannion, Comh. Tomás O Mainnín, Comh. S. Mac Giolla Earnain, Comh. Tomás MacAodha, Comh. M. O Maoláin, Comh. C. Ní Fhatharta, Comh. P. O Foighil, Comh. S. O Neachtain, Comh. P. O Suilleabháin, Comh. C. Ní Chuinn, Comh. O Coinín, Comh. Seamus Breathnach. (24)

In Aghaidh: (0)

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried .

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR 727 THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF GORT, TOWNLAND OF BALLYHUGH FOR PERMISSION FOR ALTERATIONS TO APPROVED HOUSING LAYOUT INCLUDING INCREASED AREA – CHANGE FROM 18 NO. DETACHED HOUSES TO 16 NO. DETACHED HOUSES AND 4 NO. PAIRS OF SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES INCLUDING ASSOCIATED SERVICES AT BALLYHUGH, GORT, CO. GALWAY. PLANNING REF NO. 00-2859

APPLICANT: John Fordham Building Contractors, Ltd., Rakeerin, Gort, Co. Galway

Cllr M. Cunningham declared an interest and left the chamber while this matter was being considered.

Mr. Liam Kavanagh, S.E.E. outlined the details of Material Contravention set out in the following report dated 25th September, 2000 which had been circulated to the Members.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Permission for alterations to approved housing layout including increased area - change from 18 no. detached houses to 16 no. detached houses and 4 no. pairs of semi-detached houses including associated services.

PREVIOUS HISTORY: 97/2075 was an application for a housing development and was granted with 8 no. conditions.

ASSESSMENT: The site is located west of Boland's lane and Southeast of the O'Grady housing estate "The Maples". The access is through "the Maples" which is under construction.

There is a mixture of design and finishes in this area. The development of this site will form an extension to the Maples Estate and the foul sewers and surface water sewers will drain through the existing sewers north of the development and into the public systems.

The major portion of the site is located within the agricultural zoning of the current Gort Town Plan with a minor section at the North western part of the site within a residential zoning.

The Draft Development Plan for Gort has proposed this area for residential zoning. Houses no.s 1 and 2 will be omitted to form extra open space which will provide an enhanced vista from Boland's Lane.

It is proposed to grant permission for 22 no. dwellinghouses - 16 no. detached dwellinghouses and 3 no. pairs of semi-detached dwellinghouses.

The density achieved is acceptable and compatible with the adjoining development.

OBJECTIONS: There are no objections to the application.

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 15th August, 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 14th October, 2000.

Cllr M. Fahy proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by John Fordham Building Contractors, Ltd., for planning permission for alterations to approved housing layout including increased area - change from 18 no. detached houses to 16 no. detached houses and 4 no. pairs of semi-detached houses including associated services in the townland of Ballyhugh, Gort, Co. Galway. Planning ref. no. 00-2859, and having considered the Report dated 25th September, 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. Cllr. M. Regan seconded this proposal. A vote was then taken which resulted as follows:-

Ar Son:

Comh. Seos. De Burca, Teachta Ulick De Burca, Comh. S. O Callanáin, Teachta P. O Connachtáin, Comh. Micheál O conghaile, Comh. Seos. O Conghaile, Comh. M. O Fathaigh, Comh. S. O Gabhain, Comh. M. Ní Hodach, Comh. P. O h-Eidhin, Comh S. Seoighe, Comh. J.J Mannion, Comh. Tomás O Mainnín, Comh. S. Mac Giolla Earnain, Comh. Tomás MacAodha, Comh. M. O Maoláin, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, Comh. P. O Foighil, Comh. S. O Neachtain, Comh. P. O Suilleabháin, Comh. C. Ni Chuinn, Comh. O Coinín, Comh. M. Riagáin. Comh. Seamus Breathnach, (24)

In Aghaidh: (0)

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution carried .

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

728

Construction of Houses at Coiléan, Carraroe South, Co. Galway

A copy of reports dated 19th July, 2000 and 18th September, 2000 were circulated to each member.

The Assistant County Manager explained that a letter received from Geraghty & Co. Solicitors regarding this proposal, had been forwarded to Mr. T.O'Donoghue, Law Agent who said that the Council had fully complied with planning regulations.

Dúirt An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain go raibh feabhas mór tágha ar an leagan amach tithíochta. He said that the Council should not promote housing development in an area that was unsuitable. The local community are not satisfied with the water and sewerage services in the area and there is sewerage overflow into Loughairwillin and the construction of fourteen new houses will add to the present sewerage problem. The agreement to increase the size of the fourteen sites was reached by the Connemara Councillors for the good of the tenants. He said that the Council should have had better consultations with the local Community in Carraroe and the present difficulties would not have arisen. Dúirt An Comhairleoir O'Foighil go raibh se ar son na tithe agus go raibh deis taghta anois. There are five hundred applications for housing in the Connemara area of which 200 are from the Gaeltacht and 100-150 approximately from the Carraroe area. These people have to be considered and are the Councils primary responsibility. The problems of water, sewerage and the Irish language can be overcome. An Comhairleoir O'Foighil said that the Council was making an honest effort to meet the concerns of the objectors and he fully supported this plan.

Councillor J. J. Mannion said that he was disappointed that there was opposition to taking fourteen families off the housing list and that some Members of the Council had sought to delay the decision making process of the Council. He said that he was disappointed that the Minister for Housing did not sort out this problem which was in his own constituency . It should be a core value of Councillors to provide housing for families on the housing list. Councillor S. Walsh said that he was approached by different groups from Carraroe on this matter and had agreed to seek further information as he was unhappy with the original plans. It was agreed to reduce the number of houses from twenty two to fourteen for the good of the Community. He said that the sewerage and water services in the area needed to be improved.

The Assistant County Manager said that the matters of planning, sewerage and water quality were included in the report circulated to the Members. He said that he could

assure the Members that Council Officials did not want any conflict with the local Community in Carraroe. Every effort was made to reconcile a complex issue and he looked forward to commencing the Construction of the fourteen houses.

On the proposal of Councillor Conneely, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Foighil the Council unanimously approved the construction of 14 no. houses at Coiléan, Carraroe South.

Construction of 81 No. Houses with services at Killaloonty, Weir Road, Tuam 729

On the proposal of Councillor Connolly seconded by Deputy Connaughton it was agreed to defer this item to the Special Meeting on Friday, 13th October, discussions to take place at the Tuam Area Committee Meeting.

**LEASE OF PLOT OF LAND AT THE LAY-BY ADJOINING
THE REGIONAL ROAD R350 IN THE TOWNLAND OF GORTCAM,
BULLAUN, LOUGHREA, TO NOEL MORRISSY, TURROE, BULLAUN,
LOUGHREA 730**

On the proposal of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Deputy Connaughton the Council approved the lease of plot of land at the lay-by adjoining the Regional Road R350 in the townland of Gortcam, Bullaun, Loughrea to Noel Morrissy, Turroe, Bullaun, Loughrea, in accordance with Notice dated 30th August under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946-a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

**SALE OF SITE AT NO 6. ARD AOIBHINN, ATHENRY, 731
TO JOHN FARRELL, 21 GLENMORE, COLLEGE ROAD, GALWAY,**

On the proposal of Councillor Hynes, seconded by Councillor Connolly the Council approved the sale of site at No. 6 Ard Aoibhinn, Athenry, to John Farrell, 21 Glenmore, College Road, Galway in accordance with Notice dated 30th August, 2000 under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 – a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

CEMETERY AT DRUMACOO, BALLINDERREEN 732

Councillor Fahy asked why a burial could not take place in land acquired for an extension to Drumacoo cemetery. The Deputy Manager said that he did not have the information available for Councillor Fahy but would make enquiries.

MEMBERSHIP OF STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES 733

A copy of Report dated 19th September had been circulated to the Members, giving the names of all the members of the SPC,s as hereunder

- 30 Members to Galway County Council – 6 on each SPC including the Chair
- 3 Members of Town Councils

- 10 Members nominated by Community/Voluntary Organisations
- 7 Members nominated by National Pillars

MEMBERSHIP OF SPC's

HOUSING SERVICES SPC

- 1. Cllr. J.J. Mannion, Bridge Street, Clifden (Chair)
- 2. Cllr. Michael Regan, Ballinakill, Loughrea
- 3. Cllr. Pat O'Sullivan, 7 Kilgarve Park, Ballinasloe
- 4. Cllr. Kathleen Quinn, Ussey, Ballymoe
- 5. Cllr. Pat Hynes, Gort Road, Loughrea
- 6. Senator Jarlath McDonagh, Turloughmore
- 7. Comm. Mary Gunter-Nix, Garrybreeda, Loughrea
- 8. Comm. Miko Kelly, Church View, Tuam
- 9. Mr. Clem Walsh, Walsh Waste Disposal, Parkmore, Ballybrit
- 10. Ms. Liz Walsh, c/o Admin Section, N.U.I., Galway
- 11. Ms. Michelle Hardiman, Mental Health Assoc. of Ireland, c/o Tuam Day Hospital, Hermitage Court, Tuam
- 12. Ms. Mary O'Keefe, Ballygar Women's Traveller Group, Social & Resource Centre, Ballygar

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION SPC

- 1. Cllr. Michael Connolly, Moyloughmore, Moylough (Chair)
- 2. Cllr. Joe Callanan, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe
- 3. Cllr. Connie Ni Fhatharta, An Cladhnach, An Cheathru Rua
- 4. Cllr. Tim Rabbitt, Dublin Road, Oranmore
- 5. Deputy Paul Connaughton, Mountbellew
- 6. Cllr. Noel Grealish, Carnmore, Oranmore
- 7. Ms. Cathleen Ni Chonghaile, Comhair Caomhan Teo, Inis Oirr
- 8. Mr. Pat Gilmore, c/o Martins, Main Street, Ballygar
- 9. Mr. Sean Kelly, Trusth, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- 1. Cllr. Josie Conneely, Mannin, Ballyconnelly (Chair)
- 2. Cllr. Mary Hoade, Cahernaheena, Headford
- 3. Cllr. Paddy McHugh, Shop Street, Tuam
- 4. Cllr. Jimmy McClearn, Killimor, Ballinasloe
- 5. Cllr. Seamus Walsh, Glann, Oughterard
- 6. Deputy Ulick Burke, Eaglehill, Abbey, Loughrea
- 7. Mr. Ray O'Donoghue, Oranmore Community Dev. Assoc., Oranmore
- 8. Mr. Bryan Egan, 12 St. Francis Street, Galway
- 9. Ms. Catherine Kinsella, Medtronic AVE, Parkmore Industrial Est, Galway

ENVIRONMENTAL & CONSERVATION SERVICES

1. Cllr. Tomas Mannion, Shruffane, Caltra, Ballinasloe (Chair)
2. Cllr. Michael Fahy, Caherduff, Ardrahan
3. Cllr. Sean O Neachtain, An Spideal
4. Cllr. Michael Mullins, Cleaghmore, Ballinasloe
5. Cllr. Tom McHugh, Kilcloghans, Tuam
6. Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh, Ardeevin, Williamstown
7. Cllr. Kevin Walsh, 26 Kilgarve Park, Ballinasloe
8. An t-Uasal Aodán Mac Donncha, Comhairle Pobail an Spideal, Forbairt Pobail Teo, An Spideal
9. Mr. Michael McGrath, Braithaireacht na Coiribe, Grange, Corrandulla
10. Mr. Michael Nolan, Ballygar Community & Environmental Group, Tully, Ballygar
11. Mr. Gerry Hoade, Carrobeg House, Belclare

CULTURAL & GENERAL SERVICES

1. Cllr. Seamus Gavin, Cnocan Raithni, Moycullen (Chair)
2. Cllr. Matt Loughnane, Dunsandle, Kiltulla
3. Cllr. Michael Cunningham, Galway Road, Gort
4. Cllr. James Joyce, Laurecetown
5. Cllr. Joe Burke, The Old Presbytery, Tuam
6. Cllr. Pol O Foighil, An Cnoc, Indreabhan
7. Mr. Justin Mitchell, Woodlawn Heritage Group, Woodlawn, Ballinasloe
8. Tomás O Baoill, Conradh na Gaeilge, Craobh Bheal Atha na Slua, Cliath Mor, Beal Atha na Slua
9. Mr. Charles Sweeney, Aisteoiri Inis Oirr, Inis Oirr

On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Connolly the Council ratified the nominations to the SPC'S.

An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain expressed dissatisfaction as his preference was for the Roads SPC.

TERM OF OFFICE FOR CHAIRPERSONS OF SPC'S

734

A letter from the Department of Environment and Local Government dated 27th July had been circulated to the Members.

On the proposal of Councillor Connolly, seconded by Councillor Mannion the Council agreed that the term of office for the Chairpersons of SPC's would be two years.

It was agreed that the Chairs SPC's would consult with the County Secretary with a view to arranging dates for the first meetings of the SPC's.

It was agreed to hold a Tuam Area Committee Meeting at 11.00 on Monday the 2nd October and the Oranmore Area Committee would join the meeting from 11.00 to 11.30.

**TO CONSIDER ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT 735
WITH BALLINASLOE UDC UNDER SECTION 59 OF THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ACT 1955 WHEREBY BALLINASLOE UDC WOULD CARRY
OUT THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL FUNCTIONS OF
GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL
ROADS WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREA OF BALLINASLOE UDC.**

A Report by the County Secretary dated 14th September, 00 had been circulated to the Members.

The Deputy County Manager said that the function of traffic management and maintenance in respect of urban roads in Ballinasloe Town rests with Ballinasloe Urban District Council, whereas the functions in relation to the National and Regional Roads in the town rest with the County Council. The maintenance element of all the roads does not present a problem but the operation of traffic management by two different Local Authorities within the town, is not the most efficient or convenient way of doing things. The UDC are putting new traffic bye-laws in place and request that the Council permit them to be the enforcement authority for all the roads in the UDC area. This would have no financial implications for the Council. Councillor Callanan said that he had no objection but requested further discussion at an Area Meeting. Councillor O'Sullivan said that he was a member of the Urban Council and that an Assistant Engineer had been appointed in Ballinasloe to improve traffic management. He said that traffic management was the only function involved. Councillor Joyce said that the Area Committees should meet with the U.D.C. to discuss the issue as he felt that the Council should not delegate its powers without knowing the implications. This was agreed.

ASSESSMENT OF WATER NEEDS 736

After a short discussion it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

LOCAL IMPORVEMENT SCHEMES 737

Councillor T. McHugh had asked that this item be put on the agenda in order that issues relating to these schemes could be discussed. During the ensuing discussion the following points were made by the members:

- L.I.S. Scheme is the only scheme under which many roads can be improved and the good work done to-date has to be acknowledged.

- If roads are not taken over after the works are completed, the roads will go into dis-repair again
- If it is possible to get a road done under the L.I.S. Scheme a second time, the beneficiaries are not happy to have to pay a contribution the second time.
- That notice of motion money be used to supplement the local contribution.
- That L.I.S. roads be taken over when the works are complete.
- That a flat rate of contribution be applied to the exclusion of the old valuation system.
- That the regulations governing the L.I.S. schemes be relaxed in the case of real hardship cases.
- Some people are still not able to benefit under the L.I.S. Schemes.
- That roads on which there are houses should be the main beneficiaries under the L.I.S. Scheme.

The Assistant County Manager explained that the Council already had made a submission to the Department proposing a flat rate of contribution. He understood that the Department would be reviewing the L.I.S. Scheme and if there were any other issues that the members wished to raise, these could be included in a submission. Mr Tierney said that a report would be prepared for a future meeting setting out the issues in relation to the L.I.S. Scheme.

REVISED SCHEME OF GRANTS FOR GROUP WATER SCHEMES 738

A copy of report on Group Water Supply Schemes dated 19th September, 00 was circulated to the Members.

The Deputy Manager referred to Circular Letter L10/2000 from the Department which sets out the new scale of capital grants for group water schemes. He said that the Council has an extensive allocation and he paid tribute to the staff for their hard work. He said that applications for new Group Water schemes and the upgrading of existing schemes are considered immediately when the relevant documentation is submitted with the application. The members welcomed the increased grants.

MANAGERS BUSINESS 739

Estimates Meeting

The Council agreed that the Estimates Meeting would be held on Friday the 17th November, 00 at 3.00. p.m.

CONFERENCES

740

On the proposal of Councillor McClearn, seconded by Councillor 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:-

Environmental Seminar - Dublin - 4th October
 Cllr.Kathleen Quinn Dep.Paul Connaughton Dep.Ulick Burke
 Sen.Jarlarth McDonagh Cllr.Michael Connolly Cllr.Michael Cunningham
 Cllr.Tim Rabbitt

2nd National Environmental Conference - Carrickmacross - 3rd & 4th October
 Cllr. Connie Ni Fhatharta

Environmental Seminar - Cork - 5th October
 Cllr.Pol Bainin O Foighil Cllr.Jimmy McClearn Cllr.Tiarnan Walsh
 Cllr.Mary Hoade Cllr.Joise Conneely Cllr.Seamus Walsh

Mayo through the Millennium - Westport - 6th - 8th October
 Cllr.Michael Mullins Cllr.Jimmy McClearn Cllr.Michael Connolly

Waste Management Conference - Dublin - 10th October
 Cllr.Pol Bainin O Foighil Sen.Paul Connaughton Cllr.Jimmy McClearn
 Dep.Ulick Burke Cllr.Tiarnan Walsh Cllr.Tom McHugh

L.A.M.A. Conference - Ennis - 13th - 15th October
 Cllr.Michael Mullins Cllr.Michael Connolly Cllr.Séan O' Neachtain
 Cllr.Pat O' Sullivan Cllr.James Joyce Cllr.Mary Hoade
 Cllr.Kathleen Quinn Cllr.Josie Conneely Cllr.Seamus Walsh
 Chairperson Connie Ni Fhatharta

Western Health Board Conference - Athlone - 17th - 19th October
 Cllr. Pol Bainin O Foighin Cllr.Jimmy McClearn Cllr.Tiarnan Walsh

Western Tourism Conference - Co. Clare - 24th - 25th October
 Cllr. Michael Mullins Chairperson Connie Ni Fhatharta

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

N.O.M. NO. 16 – ROAD – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 741

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"This road is not in charge of the Council except for a short section as far as Kearn's house. The portion which is in charge is in good condition. The remainder is not the responsibility of the Council."

N.O.M. NO. 17 – ROAD – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM 742

The following written reply was given to Councillor Cunningham:-

"There are no funds available at present to install a fountain. However the project will be kept in mind if funding does become available in the future."

N.O.M. NO. 18. – LIGHTING – CLLR. M. FAHY 743

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"This location will be considered when the public lighting programme for 2001 is being prepared."

N.O.M. NO.19 - HOUSING – CLLR. M. FAHY 744

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"The County Council's four year multi-annual programme for house construction includes provision for the erection of additional houses at Kinvara.

The Council is therefore actively seeking to acquire housing land in Kinvara so that the proposals in the programme can be implemented".

N.O.M. NO. 20 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. FAHY 745

The following written reply was given to Councillor Fahy:-

"Consultants have been appointed to prepare a Preliminary Report on a sewerage scheme for the village of Kinvara".

N.O.M. NO. 21 – ROAD – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 746

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

"There is considerable development work ongoing on this road. It is not proposed to take it in charge at present because the cost of maintenance would be excessive."

N.O.M. NO. 22 – ROAD – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 747

The following written reply was given to Councillor Loughnane:-

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

N.O.M. NO. 23 – WATER – CLLR. J. McCLERAN 748

The following written reply was given to Councillor McCleran:-

"Galway County Council are in the process of identifying, testing, and developing extra boreholes to augment the supply for the village of Killimor."

N.O.M. NO. 24 – ROAD – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH 750

The following written reply was given to Councillor McDonagh:-

"An estimate of the cost of bringing this road up to standard will be prepared. However if the road is improved it is not proposed to declare it a public road".

N.O.M. NO. 25 – LIGHTING – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH 751

The following written reply was given to Councillor McDonagh:-

"There is £10,000 allocated in this year's Programme for Traffic Route Lighting for Turloughmore. Lackagh is not included in the Programme".

N.O.M. NO. 26 - ROAD – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH 752

The following written reply was given to Councillor McDonagh:-

"The Council's Road Design team has been requested to prepare a design for remedial measures at this location and an application for funding will be sent to National Roads Authority."

**N.O.M. NO. 27 – DEVELOPMENT WORK –
CLLR. P. MCHUGH**

753

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

“Every effort will be made to ensure co-ordination between the various agencies carrying out development work in the County and Galway County Council itself. This is already happening through extensive liaison with these agencies in relation to the Council’s Major Roads and Water Programmes.

There is a concern however that the Council and general public may in the future be faced with a multiplicity of agencies seeking permission to lay competing services in the public road network. It is important that the interests of the public be weighed against the principle of a fresh market to ensure that inconvenience to the public is kept to a minimum.”

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

754

The following written reply was given to Councillor McHugh:-

“This location will be included in the Speed Limit review which will shortly be put before the Electoral Area Committee Meetings.”

N.O.M. NO. 29 – SOILSE – AN COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA

755

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

“Tá sé beartaíthe soilsí poiblí a chur idir an droichead ag an Cnoc agus an acomhail ag an reilig agus an páirc peile. Níl plean ann chun na soilsí a leathnú níos fuide siar.”

N.O.M.NO.30 – BÓTHAR –AN COMH. S.O’NEACHTAIN

756

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh don Comhairleoir Neachtain:-

“Táimid ag plé leis an úinéar tálún faoi seo.”

N.O.M. NO. 31 – BÓTHAR – AN COMH. S. O'NEACHTAIN 757

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh don Comhairleoir Neachtain:-

"Tá an láthar seo lastuigh den threoir luais 40 m.s.u. Tá na gnáth lintí bhriste a cuirtear leis an threor sin ann. Tá na sinithí 40 m.s.u. ar an dhá thaobh an mbóthair. Déanfar feabhas ar siniú chomh luaith agus is féidir."

N.O.M. NO. 32 – BÓTHAR – AN COMH.S.O'NEACHTAIN 758

Seo leanas an freagra a tugadh don Comhairleoir Neachtain:-

"Tá an talamh ceannaithe chun na ballaí a chur siar agus an léargas a fheabhsú ag an láthair seo.

Déanfar an obair go gairid chomh maith le obair fheabhasacháin ag áiteanna eile ar an R336."

N.O.M. NO. 33 – ROAD – CLLR. S. WALSH 759

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"Two pedestrian crossings are not considered necessary. The provision of one crossing will be considered in the overall context of the proposed traffic plan."

N.O.M. NO. 34 – LIGHTING – CLLR. S. WALSH 760

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"It is hoped to include this location for school flashing lights in the programme for 2001."

N.O.M. NO. 35 – ROAD – CLLR. S. WALSH 761

The following written reply was given to Councillor Walsh:-

"Routine maintenance work will be carried out on this road in the next month."

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, approved & signed
Connie N^o 18 Phalkar
Chair person
18-12-2000
Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL,
GALWAY ON FRIDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER 2000.**

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Comh. Connie Ní Fhatharta

ILATHAIR FRESIN:

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

Messrs. J. Tierney, Deputy Co. Manager, J. Colleran, County Engineer, T. Kavanagh, Co. Secretary, J. Cullen, A.O., J. Eising, A/S.E.E., C. MacAodha Bhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge & Ms. A. Power, A/S.O.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

708

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Anthony & Mary Crowe, Brierfield, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
Mrs. Annie McNamara, Caheroglissane, Gort, Co. Galway
Mr. Peter Hurley, Derrymullen, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

BEST WISHES

709

Councillor Mullins wished the Galway Minor Hurling Team and John Moylan, Team Selector every success in the All-Ireland Minor Hurling Final.

The Cathaoirleach asked that the County Secretary write to the Galway County Board in an effort to secure tickets for all Members for the All-Ireland Football Final.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

710

An Cathaoirleach requested that Standing Orders be suspended so that a Deputation from Coiste Chuileain and Coiste Pobail na Cheathru Rua be allowed address the Meeting regarding the impact of the proposed building of a Housing Estate on their water supply and sewerage. An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain seconded this proposal.

Councillor J. Burke said that the Council would be creating a precedent in receiving the Deputation and that there was an arrangement for receiving Deputations at Area Meetings. A number of Councillors agreed and said that they were opposed to the suspension of Standing Orders as the item regarding provision of housing for Carraroe was not on the Agenda and should therefore not be dealt with. Councillor J.J. Mannion said that he was supporting the applicants on the Housing List and was prepared to vote in favour of the construction of the Council Housing Scheme at Coileán, Carraroe South.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Burke and seconded by Councillor Loughnane that Standing Orders be not suspended.

The County Secretary advised the Members that three quarters of the Members present must vote in favour of suspending Standing Orders. A vote was then taken for the suspension of Standing Orders:-

AR SON: Cllrs. S. Gavin, J. Joyce, C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain
P. Hynes & S. Walsh (6)

IN AGHAIDH: Cllrs J. Burke, J. Callanan, Deputy P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M.
Connolly, M. Cunningham, N. Grealish, M.
Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, T.
McHugh, M. Mullins, P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn & T. Walsh (15)

GAN VOTAIL: -----

The proposal to suspend standing orders was lost.

An Cathaoirleach asked if a written submission from Coiste Chuileain and Coiste Pobail na Cheathru Rua could be circulated to each Member. This was agreed by the Members.

**REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994
REGARDING LEENANE SEWERAGE SCHEME**

711

Report dated 28th August 2000 had been circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain, seconded by Councillor Gavin, the Council approved the provision of a Treatment Plant and Collection System for the village of Leenane.

**REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994
REGARDING DUNMORE SEWERAGE SCHEME**

712

Report dated 28th August 2000 had been circulated to each Member.

In reply to Deputy Connaughton's query regarding Kilkerrin Sewerage Scheme, Mr. Eising, A/S.E.E. said that Kilkerrin will be included with Dunmore and Leenane in the Design, Build and Operate Contract. He explained that the reason for delay in the Part X procedure was that two submissions were received on Kilkerrin Sewerage Scheme which were being investigated and it is hoped to have it on the agenda for the next Meeting.

On the proposal of Deputy Connaughton, seconded by Councillor Connolly, the Council approved the provision of a Treatment Plant, Surface Water Sewer and alterations to the existing Collection System for Dunmore Sewerage Scheme.

**REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT
(PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994
REGARDING CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDER
THE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME**

713

Report dated 28th August 2000 had been circulated to each Member.

- (1) Construction of single rural house at Rosroe, Renvyle, Co. Galway

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Councillor J.J. Mannion, seconded by An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain.

- (2) Construction of 6 no. houses at Derrybeg, Tynagh (change of house plans and on-

Site relocation of treatment plant as per revised drawings)

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Councillor Loughnane, seconded by Councillor Cunningham.

In reply to An Comhairleoir O'Neachtain's query regarding provision of housing at Renvyle, the Deputy County Manager said that there is huge support for this development in the locality and there is pressure to get the development completed.

In reply to Councillor Joyce's query regarding provision of housing at Laurencetown, the Deputy County Manager said that the Part X procedure was complete and would be put to tender soon.

Councillor Regan welcomed the housing development in Tynagh and said he looked forward to more houses being built in rural County Galway.

AT THIS POINT IT WAS AGREED TO DEFER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:- **714**

- Item 4 - TERM OF OFFICE FOR CHAIRS OF SPC'S
- Item 9 - PRESENTATION BY G.E.A.L. (Galway Energy Agency Ltd)
- Item 10 - TO CONSIDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2000

AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF RIVER FERGUS DRAINAGE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1999 **715**

A copy of the Auditor's Report on the River Fergus Drainage Committee for year ended 31st December 1999 was circulated to each Member.

The Auditor's Report was noted by the Council on the proposal of Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Mullins.

APPLICATION FOR REMISSION OF RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UDARAS NA GAELTACHTA ACT 1979 FROM C.D.S. TEO **716**

A Report dated 1st September 2000 had been circulated to each Member. It was proposed by Councillor T. Mannion, seconded by Councillor O'Sullivan and resolved to grant a

remission of two thirds of the rate leviable to C.D.S. Teo for the period 1/1/2000 to 31/12/2008, in accordance with the Udaras na Gaeltachta Act 1979.

TO APPROVE OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION FOR PERIOD ENDING 31/12/2000 717

The County Secretary explained that due to the exceptional levels of expenditure on capital works and land purchase, overdraft approval of £5.8m would be required at certain times during the year.

On the proposal of Councillor Callanan, seconded by Councillor Quinn, the Council approved overdraft accommodation in the sum of £5.8m for the period 1/1/2000 to 31/12/2000.

CONFERENCES 718

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

Colmcille Trust Seminar – Letterkenny – 25/27 February 2000

Deputy P. Connaughton

William Carleton Summer School – Clogher – 7/11 August 2000

Deputy P. Connaughton

Mid West Regional Authority Conference – Killarney – 14/15 September 2000

Deputy P. Connaughton

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

Cllr. P. McHugh

General Council of County Council's Seminar – 13/15 April 2000

Cllr. P. McHugh

CORI Policy Conference – Dublin – 26 September 2000

Cllr. M. Fahy

Cllr. M. Cunningham

Cllr. K. Quinn

Special Meeting - 8th September 2000

Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. J. Conneely
Cllr. S. Walsh	Sen. J. McDonagh	Cllr. N. Grealish
Deputy P. Connaughton		

Waste Management Conference – Dublin Castle – 10 October 2000

Cllr. J. Callanan	Cllr. M. Cunningham	Cllr. M. Hoade
Cllr. K. Quinn	Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. P. McHugh

Galway Harbour Board Conference – Galway – 29 September 2000

Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. S. Walsh
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A.M.A.I. Conference – Clonakilty – 12/14 September 2000

Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. T. Walsh
Cllr. M. Mullins	Cllr. J. McClearn	Deputy P. Connaughton

Winter Tourism Conference 2000 – Ennistymon – 24/25 November 2000

Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. S. Walsh	Cllr. M. Connolly
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2000 La Touche Legacy Seminar – Greystones – 29 Sept/1 Oct 2000

Cllr. M. Cunningham	Cllr. M. Regan	Cllr. S. O’Neachtain
Cllr. T. Mannion	Cllr. M. Hoade	Cllr. P. McHugh
Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. S. Walsh
Senator J. McDonagh	Cllr. N. Grealish	Cllr. T. McHugh
Cllr. J. Burke	Cllr. M. Mullins	Cllr. J. McClearn
Deputy P. Connaughton		

BMW Regional Assembly Conference – Ballinlough – 2 November 2000

Cllr. J. Joyce	Cllr. P. O’Sullivan	Cllr. P. McHugh
Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. S. Walsh
Cllr. T. McHugh		

Western Health Board Conference – Athlone – 17/19 October 2000

Cllr. J. Joyce	Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Connolly
Cllr. J. Conneely	Cllr. S. Walsh	

IT WAS DECIDED TO DEAL WITH ITEM NO. 12 AT THIS POINT

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

719

Fluoride in Water

An Cathaoirleach read correspondence from a group called *Action Against Fluoride in Water* who were interested in making a presentation to the Council.

Councillor Connolly said that he had seen a video and documentation from this group and had brought it to the attention of the Rural Water Monitoring Committee.

Councillor J. Burke said that the Council should invite other groups with different views to make presentations as the whole question of fluoride in water is very important and the Council should not be seen to promote any one group.

Deputy Connaughton said that this was a huge health matter and that that it was important to hear both sides of the argument.

It was agreed that representatives from both *Action Against Fluoride in Water* and the Western Health Board would be invited to a future Meeting of Galway County Council.

N.R.A. Signs

Councillor Cunningham referred to signs that were recently erected by the N.R.A. in Gort and were causing an obstruction. He proposed that the N.R.A. be asked to liaise with the Local Area Engineers when erecting signs.

In reply, the County Engineer said that liaison between the N.R.A. and the Local Area Offices was already taking place and if there were any further problems these would be investigated.

Flashing Lights

Councillor Regan asked when the flashing lights sanctioned for Tynagh and Leitrim would be erected. Councillor Mullins asked about flashing lights for Woodlawn. The County Engineer said that he would pursue the matters.

PRESENTATION BY I.D.A.

720

An Cathaoirleach introduced Mr. Jim Murrin of I.D.A. who made a presentation to the Members.

Mr. Murrin outlined the Business of IDA Ireland as follows:-

- To attract foreign direct investment into Ireland in manufacturing and internationally traded services.

- To assist the expansion of existing overseas companies – to create sustainable employment.
- To secure balance in the regional dispersal of projects.

He outlined the following facts:-

- IDA does not create jobs
- Jobs are created by investing companies
- Every project is aggressively competed for by other countries
- IDA does not decide to put projects where it would like to see them
- The location of each project is decided by the investing company
- IDA's role in regional dispersal is to seek to influence investors about location without losing the project to attractive locations elsewhere
- In the final analysis, the Investor, not the IDA, makes the final decision.

Mr. Murrin explained that IDA-supported companies account for about 8% of total employment in Ireland – of the c.102,000 jobs created in the Economy during 1999, c.8,500 came from IDA activities. He said that foreign investors who now find Ireland attractive are generally high-tech, high-skilled sectors and that they will locate where high-tech, high-skilled people want to live. He said that foreign investors increasingly want to locate in urban areas and it is IDA's task to encourage them to at least the larger and medium sized towns, which are/can be made attractive to foreign investors.

He said that the main priorities of IDA Ireland is significant industrial development in the Objective One Region and to upgrade the existing base of overseas companies to give them more sustainability and improve their value and quality.

Mr. Murrin outlined the imperatives in a limited time-frame:-

- Physical Infrastructure – roads, rail, airport, port
- Commercial Infrastructure – power, telecommunications
- Human Resources – skill, training

He outlined the tools available to influence foreign investment:-

- Corporate tax rate
- Serviced industrial sites e.g. Ballinasloe, Tuam, Loughrea
- Advance buildings to be provided by private sector e.g. Ballinasloe, Tuam
- Skills e.g. GMIT, NUIG, PLC courses in the VEC

- Attractiveness of the towns
- Access – roads, rail, airports
- Bandwidth, power, gas
- Differential Grants
- Enterprise Ireland, County Enterprise Board, Government Decentralisation, LEADER, etc
- Co-ordinated approach from all Agencies

He concluded the presentation by stating that IDA Ireland is committed to County Galway and would be focusing on key towns. He said that there would be favourable grant support.

A general discussion then took place. Councillor J.J. Mannion complimented Mr. Murrin on his presentation. However, he said that Clifden and the English speaking part of Connemara had been neglected when it came to job creation and industrial development. He pointed out that there was a huge difference in industrial employment opportunities between the Gaeltacht area and North Connemara. He said that Mr. Murrin had made it clear that the principle focus for job creation in County Galway was centred on Ballinasloe, Tuam, Loughrea and Gort, but there was no mention of Clifden in his presentation.

A number of Councillors asked when IDA projects such as the Ballinasloe and Tuam Business Parks would be up and running. Councillor Hoade asked if IDA are looking at locating a Business Park in Headford? Councillor Gavin asked whether the county benefited from the economic success of Galway City. Councillor J. Burke said that emigrants, particularly in London, should be encouraged back to take up jobs in the county and he questioned whether the multinationals could set up satellite plants in towns outside the city. Councillor O'Sullivan said that many people wanted to work where they lived, instead of having to commute into the city every day. Councillor Callanan also emphasised the need to locate jobs near to where people live. He said that farming had gone part-time and these people cannot afford to be too far away from work.

In reply to Councillor J.J. Mannion's comments, Mr. Murrin said that Clifden was a very attractive town and he would like to see a successful industry set up there, but it was not just a question of leading investors out there. He said that there may be many different reasons – such as its distance from Shannon or Dublin.

Mr. Murrin said that it was difficult to put a time-scale on when the Tuam and Ballinasloe Business Parks would be up and running but that the commitment of the I.D.A. is strong in that regard.

Mr. Murrin said that industry worldwide tended to congregate around major urban centres and Galway city was perceived as having a whole range of attractive infrastructure. He said that it was unlikely the major multinational plants would consider opening second or third sites in the county, as this would be seen as inefficient by senior

management. But he pointed out that indigenous industries based outside Galway were already serving the successful multinationals in the city.

In reply to Councillor Callanan, Mr. Murrin said that IDA are working with Ballinasloe U.D.C. to get support for decentralisation. He said they were also working on the creation of a market brochure. He said that good infrastructure is important and will play a big part in attracting industry to an area. He said that it was important to encourage local and native entrepreneurs to invest in their own local areas.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Murrin for his presentation.

Chríochnaigh an Cruinniú ansin.

Submitted, Approved & Signed

Connie Ní Pháitharta

Chairperson.

18.12.2000

Date.