

CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY 24TH
MARCH, 2003.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Mayor P. O'Sullivan

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, N. Grealish, P. McHugh, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, M. Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

Oifigigh: Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, E. Lusby, Finance Officer, T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, F. Gilmore, P. Ridge, Directors Of Services; T. Murphy, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. M. Killoran-Coyne, Senior Staff Officer; Ms. M. Barnicle, Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1931

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following: -

Ms. Teresa Keville, Claran, Ower P.O., Co. Galway.
Ms. Bernie Donnellan & family, Timree, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Ms. Marion Gavin & family, Moyloughmore, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mr. John & Mary Mee, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mr. & Mrs. Terence & Mary Colleran & family, Quarry Park, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mrs. Margaret Keedy, Owerbeg, Ower P.O., Co. Galway.
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel O'Neill, Gurteenaveala, Clontuskert, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

MINUTES

1932

Mr. Murphy said that the report of the Loughrea Area Committee meeting held on 10th February 2003 was adopted at the Monthly meeting held on 24th February 2003 but was omitted from the Minutes of that meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed to approve the Minutes of the Monthly meeting held on 24th February 2003, subject to the following amendment, which is to be included at the end of the "Submissions/Observations received on the Material Alterations/Amendments on the Loughrea Town Draft Development Plan":

“The report of the Loughrea Area Committee meeting held on 10th February 2003, were considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy”.

Arising out of the Minutes of that meeting, Cllr. Hynes said that he wanted an investigation carried out as to why planning permission was granted on an extension to the existing factory along the original reserved route of the Loughrea By-Pass. Mr. Ridge said that a report on the sequence of applications on the site in question, was available and was being circulated to the members.

REPORTS

1933

The Report of the Cultural and General Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 6th March, 2003 was considered. Mr. Murphy said that there was an error in the second paragraph of item 6 on page 6 of this Report, that the word “English” should be replaced by the word “Gaelige”. The Report as corrected, was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhartharta, seconded by Cllr. O’Malley.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on the 9th December, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. T Walsh, seconded by Cllr T McHugh.

Cllr. Gavin referred to the number of deputation’s been dealt with at Area Committee meetings and said that the system of dealing with such deputations should be reviewed by the Council. The Mayor suggested that this matter should be dealt with by the CPG and this was agreed.

The Report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on the 10th February, 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade.

The Report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on the 24th February 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Hoade.

The Report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on the 20th February 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 16th December, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhartharta, seconded by Cllr O’Foighil.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 23rd January, 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhartharta, seconded by Cllr Conneely.

Monthly Meeting 24/03/2003

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 31st January, 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. JJ Mannion, seconded by Comh. Ní Fhatharta.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 24th February, 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr P O'Malley, seconded by Cllr J Conneely.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 10th February, 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. T Mannion.

TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR REMISSION OF RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UDARAS NA GAELTACHTA ACT 1979 FROM XENITH BIOMED, TULLY INDUSTRIAL PARK, BALLINAHOWN.

1934

Report dated the 28th February 2003 was circulated to each member.

It was proposed by Comh. Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Comh. O'Foighil and resolved to grant a remission of two thirds of the rate leviable to Xenith Biomed Teoranta for a period of ten years from 01/01/2001 to 21/12/2010, in accordance with the Udaras na Gaeltachta Act 1979.

TO APPROVE APPLICATION FOR REMISSION OF RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UDARAS NA GAELTACHTA ACT 1979 FROM TROSCAN GAIRDINI TEO, AN FHAIRCHE.

1935

Report dated the 28th February 2003 was circulated to each member.

It was proposed by Comh. Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Comh. O'Foighil and resolved to grant a remission of two thirds of the rate leviable to Troscan Gairdini Teo for a period of ten years from 01/01/2001 to 31/12/2010, in accordance with the Udaras na Gaeltachta Act 1979.

TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ATHENRY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

1936

Report dated the 17th March 2003 was circulated to each member along with a copy of the Traffic Management Plan for Athenry.

On the proposal of Cllr Fahy, seconded by Cllr Cunningham, it was agreed to adopt the Traffic Management Plan for Athenry.

Mr. Morgan confirmed that considerable consultation had taken place with the Gardai in the drafting of this Plan.

TO ADOPT THE DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN, AS AMENDED, FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF GORT.

1937

On the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy, it was agreed to adopt the Draft Development Plan for the scheduled town of Gort.

TO ADOPT THE DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN, AS AMENDED, FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY. 1938

On the proposal of Cllr Regan, seconded by Cllr Fahy, it was agreed to adopt the Draft Development Plan for the scheduled town of Athenry.

MANAGER'S REPORT ON THE SUBMISSION/OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 12(8) OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000. 1939

The Mayor said that 116 submissions had been received on proposed amendments to the Draft County Development Plan. He said that these submissions had been considered by the Planning and Cultural & General SPC's and the Council must have completed their consideration by the 10th April 2003. Mr. Ridge referred to the Minutes of the seven meetings of the SPCs and also his summary of their recommendations. It was proposed by Comh. Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Comh. O'Foighil and agreed that the Council meet at 2.00p.m. on Friday 28th March, 2003 to consider the Manager's Report on the Submissions/Observations received on the proposed Amendments to the Draft County Development Plan and the Minutes of the meetings of the SPCs, referred to above.

POLICY TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR COUNCILLORS- ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY. 1940

Report dated the 14th March 2003 was circulated to each member.

The Mayor outlined the dates for the upcoming seminar, the fourth of a series of one day intensive seminars conducted by the Institute of Public Administration on behalf of the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

The Mayor encouraged the members to attend and participate in the seminar, which would cover the topic of Environmental Policy.

Comh Ní Fhartharta informed the members that the date on which it was proposed to hold the seminar in Galway, clashed with a LAMA conference and urged the Council staff to contact the IPA to change the date listed for the Galway Seminar to another time. Mr. Murphy agreed to contact the IPA in this regard.

MANAGERS BUSINESS. 1941

Mr. Ridge referred to an upsurge in the number of planning applications received by the Council and he asked for the co-operation of the members in dealing with the volume of applications received. He said that a letter had been issued to planning agents in the county, informing them of a new procedure in relation to further information requests, whereby the onus would be on planning agents to ensure that all the necessary documentation be submitted with the initial planning application. Mr. Ridge said that it may also be necessary to reduce the number of files being put on extension of time, in order to deal with the present crisis. He said that extra staff from

other sections were being deployed to the planning department, as recruiting extra staff was not possible because the crisis would be over by the time the staff had actually been recruited. The County Manager said that the Council would as far as possible ensure that the same level of service was provided for planning applicants.

MAYORS BUSINESS

1942

It was agreed that the Minister for Environment & Local Government be invited to officially open Moycullen Sewerage Scheme and that the Mayor would officially open Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply Scheme on 9th May 2003.

CONFERENCES

1943

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Loughnane, 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:-

“20th Annual Conference” – L.A.M.A., Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

24th/25th April 2003

Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, M. Mullins, Comh. Ni Fhatharta, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, S. Walsh

“The Relevance of Local Government to Young People Today” – Dunhallow Conference, Dunhallow Park Hotel, Kilkenny

27th/30th March 2003

Cllrs. P. Hynes, J. McDonagh

“Tackling Pollution of Inland and Coastal Waters”, Carrigaline Court Hotel, Carrigaline, Co. Cork

1st/2nd May 2003

Cllrs. P.Hynes, T. Mannion

“Reviewing Public Support for Enterprise & Job Creation” – Blackwater Valley Tourism, Hibernian Hotel, Mallow, Co. Cork

16th/17th May 2003

Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, T. Mannion, T. McHugh, J. McDonagh, P.O'Malley, P. O'Sullivan, T. Walsh

“The Fighting Irish 69th Regiment New York” – Ballymote Community Enterprise Ltd, Coach House Hotel, Ballymote, Co. Sligo

9th/10th May 2003

Cllr. P. Hynes, Comh. Ni Fhatharta, Cllr. P. O'Malley

"The provision of a pedestrian crossing at this location will be considered for inclusion in the 2004 Programme. Warrants and Safety Audits will be required by the National Roads Authority for any such proposal."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.16 – CLLR. M. FAHY – AREA OFFICES

1949

The following reply was given: -

"The Council Offices in Gort were not designed to accommodate a lift. The Council however will guarantee that access by the general public will be facilitated by Council staff at ground floor level whenever necessary".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.17 – CLLR. M. FAHY – LIGHTING SCHEME

The following reply was given: -

1950

"Funding has been allocated for the provision of two lights in Peterswell in 2003. Further lights could be provided if funding was allocated through the Councillors Lighting Programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.18 – CLLR. M. FAHY – SANITARY SERVICE

The following reply was given: -

1951

"The Council currently has a preliminary report with the Department of the Environment and Local Government awaiting approval in relation to Craughwell sewerage.

The Council is currently finalising contract documents in relation to Craughwell Water and these will be forwarded to the Department of the Environment and Local Government for approval once the review is complete".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.19 – DEP. N. GREALISH – ROADS

1952

The following reply was given: -

"There is no funding currently available to re-surface this road. Routine maintenance will be carried out at this location. This road will be considered for inclusion in the next Roadworks Programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.20 – DEP. N. GREALISH – LIGHTING

1953

The following reply was given: -

"The lighting proposals for 2003 are set out in the Roadworks Programme and there is no funding available for additions to the Programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.21 – DEP. N. GREALISH – PLANNING

1954

The following reply was given: -

"As part of the preparation of the County Development Plan we have included objectives in the Plan to prepare a report on the planning and preparation of Town Plans and Area Action Plans. As part of this report we propose to identify the towns requiring development plans and setting out a timeframe for their preparation. Clarinbridge is one of those towns which will be considered for inclusion in the preparation of our report. The report with timeframes will be prepared immediately on completion and adoption of the County Development Plan. It is likely we will have a timeframe and programme of work for the preparation of town plans by June".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.22 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – ROADS

1955

The following reply was given: -

"A section of this road is included in the Roadworks Programme for 2003. We are currently awaiting approval from the Department of the Environment for the specification of the exact location to be completed."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 23 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH–AREA ACTION PLAN

1956

The following reply was given: -

"The current amendments on the Draft Development Plan are being considered. It is proposed to adopt the new Co. Development Plan and implement it by the 23rd May 2003. Policies and objectives in this plan have outlined proposals to prepare local area plans for the towns and village identified in the Settlement Strategy.

Lackagh is included in the settlement hierarchy as a settlement centre. In parallel with the adoption of the Development Plan, Galway County Council will commence the process of making out the boundaries of settlements including Lackagh. We will additionally be preparing a programme of work for the implementation of the objectives included in the plan. This programme will indicate our proposals for the prioritisation and preparation of Area Action Plans and Local Area Plans and due consideration will be given to the inclusion of Lackagh and its environs in this programme".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH– ROADS 1957

The following reply was given: -

"The provision of a right turning lane at this location would involve additional land acquisition, construction works, signage etc. and as the prescribed warrants for such a facility are not met in this case the National Roads Authority are unlikely to provide the necessary funding." "The provision of a right turning lane at this location would involve additional land acquisition, construction works, signage etc. and as the prescribed warrants for such a facility are not met in this case the National Roads Authority are unlikely to provide the necessary funding."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.25 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – SEWERAGE SCHEME

The following reply was given: -

1958

"The design documentation is completed and has been forwarded to the Department of the Environment and Local Government".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.26 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – LITTER BINS

The following reply was given: -

1959

"Tá Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe ag machnú ar an moladh seo agus déanfar tuairisc go luath".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.27 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – ROADS

1960

The following reply was given: -

"Déanfar scrúdú ar an droichead seo go luath. Cuirfear an droichead san áireamh nuair a bheidh muid ag socrú an Clár Óibreacha Bóithre do 2004."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – CLLR. T. WALSH – SIGNS

1961

The following reply was given: -
"Funding has been provided in 2003 to improve safety at this junction".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO.29 - CLLR. T. WALSH - ROADS 1962

The following reply was given: -
"Extra signage and road markings are being provided at this bend."

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed

T. Walsh

28/4/03

Date

Faint list of council members and staff names, including: P. Conroy, N. Grady, M. McHugh, D. Burke, Cllr. J. Conroy, M. ...

Galway County Council Archives

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:

*Maire Uí Dhuibhne, Dáil Éireann Mór / An Chathair Rua, Co. na Gaillimhe
Mr. Mal Guinness & family, Cromme, Poterwell, Co. Galway*

The Mayor welcomed everybody to the Special meeting of the Council which had been convened in accordance with the Standing Orders to revoke a resolution of the Council which had been passed at its meeting held on the 26th February, 2003.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, ON FRIDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2003

CATHAOIRLEACH

Mayor P. O'Sullivan

I LATHAIR FRESIN

Baill: Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, N. Grealish, P. McHugh, Sen. U. Burke, Cllr. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

Oifigigh

D. O'Donoghue, County Manager,
T. Kavanagh, P. Ridge, F. Gilmore, F. Dawson,
J. Morgan, J. Cullen, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, L. Gavin, Senior Engineer, L. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, T. Murphy, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officers, P. Carroll, Administrative Officer, M. Killoran-Coyne, Senior Staff Officer, T. Donoghue, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

1928

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following: -

Muintir Uí Dhonncha, Doire Fhearta Mor, An Cheathru Rua, Co. na Gaillimhe.
Mr. Mal Quinn & family, Dromore, Peterswell, Co. Galway.

The Mayor welcomed everybody to the Special meeting of the Council which had been convened in accordance with the Standing Orders to revoke a resolution of the Council which had been passed at its meeting held on the 24th February, 2003.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Dep. Callanan and agreed to apply to Department of Environment and Local Government for an extension of time in order to finalise the Loughrea Town Plan.

In reply to Councillors queries Mr. Ridge said that decisions on planning applications would be made in accordance with the County Development Plan in force at that time.

LITTER

1929

Cllr. Cunningham referred to the amount of litter around the County and asked if the County Manager would consider highlighting this fact and make people aware of the amount of plastic etc. littering the countryside. The County Manager said that the Council organise an Environmental Awareness Week every year but in the meantime he would talk to the Environmental Officer and the Community Wardens with a view to improving the situation.

AUGHRIM/CAPPATAGGLE ROAD

1930

It was proposed by Cllr. Joyce, seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion and agreed that the NRA be requested to meet the Councillors for the Ballinasloe Electoral Area and the members of the Oireachtas for the Galway East constituency with a view to sourcing funding to complete the Aughrim/Cappataggle Road.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed

[Signature]

28/4/03

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY, 24th FEBRUARY, 2003

CATHAOIRLEACH: Mayor P. O'Sullivan

ILATHAIR FRESIN:

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

Oifigigh: Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, T. Kavanagh, P. Ridge, F. Gilmore, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, Directors of Services, J. Eising, M. Dolly, E. Cummins, L. Gavin, Senior Engineers, L. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, T. Murphy, D. Barrett, Senior Executive Officers, Ms. Michelle Byrne, Asst. Planner, Mr. M. Owens, Administrative Officer, Ms.M. Killoran-Coyne, Senior Staff Officer, Ms. R.O Boyle, Staff Officer and Ms. T. O'Donoghue, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

1897

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mrs. Veronica O'Halloran, Ballyshrule, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mrs. Denis Farrell, Main Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway.
Mr. & Mrs. Tom & Margaret Wall, Cooloo, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
The Wall family, Forest View, Mountbellew, Co. Galway.
Mrs. Maria Fennessy & family, Church Street, Gort, Co. Galway.

Cllr. Cunningham referred to the fire in the Workshop at the Orchard Centre in Gort which was run by the Brothers of Charity and expressed his sympathy to all concerned. He said this premises was built in 1980 to provide training for the physically and mentally impaired and was a huge success. He complimented the Gort and Loughrea Fire Brigades on their work. He said that this was the third fire tragedy in Gort in the last number of years and referred to the inadequacy of the water supply in such an event. He said he was calling on the County Manager, his staff and the members of the Council for their support in getting the Gort Regional Water Scheme constructed, as soon as possible. Cllr. Fahy also sympathised with the Brothers of Charity and thanked the firemen involved. He suggested that the Council hire a lorry tanker to aid the fire service in the town. Sen. Burke said that the temporary accommodation being provided to the Brothers of Charity was inadequate and pointed out that as this is the Year of the Disabled, that replacement of the facility lost in the fire should be prioritised. It was proposed by Sen. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham and agreed that the Council should write to the Minister for Health asking that the necessary funding be put in place to provide a replacement facility.

Mr. Kavanagh, Director of Services, said that the updated preliminary report for the Gort Main Scheme is expected in a few weeks and the environmental impact statement is also near completion. He said that contract documents for the advance scheme are with DOELG and that there is a second fire appliance now available in Gort. He said that the Council were trying to locate a water tanker to supplement the existing supply.

MINUTES

1898

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 25th November, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor, on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 29th November, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Dep. Connaughton, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 6th December, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 9th December, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 11th December, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by An Comh. O'Foighil. In reply to An Comh. O'Foighil, Mr. Ridge said that the County

Monthly Meeting 24/02/2003

Managers report on the submissions received to the amendments/material alterations on the Draft County Development Plan will be available on Thursday 27th February 2003 .

Mr. Ridge said that over 100 submissions had been received in relation to the amendments/material alterations to the Draft County Development Plan as published. He said that consideration of the Managers report must be finished by the 10th April 2003. It was agreed that the Planning & Economic Development SPC consider the policy matters involved and report back to the full Council. It was also agreed that the significance of the Gaeltacht in the Draft County Development Plan should be discussed by the Cultural & General SPC.

Cllr. Connolly referred to an unauthorised development at Ballyglunin, Tuam which has been going on for the past number of years. He said that the person involved was ignoring warnings from the Council and he asked that the matter be dealt with as a matter of urgency. Mr. Gavin said that the Council were aware of this unauthorised development and that warning notices and an enforcement notice had been served. He said that the matter had been referred to the Council's Law Agent with a view to taking legal proceedings.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 16th December, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Dep. Connaughton.

The Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on the 13th January, 2003 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Dep. Callanan.

Dep. Connaughton referred to the €50,000 which had been provided in the Budget to allow a remission of rates on County Marts for the period of the Foot and Mouth disease closure in 2001. He said that it was the intention of the members that Ballinasloe Mart would also benefit from this provision. However, as the Mart is inside the town boundary, it comes within the remit of Ballinasloe Town Council and no provision had been made in the Budget of the Town Council. The County Manager confirmed that Ballinasloe Town Council is a separate legal entity and is also a separate rating authority which adopts its own rates and budgets. He said he would discuss the matter with Mr. Kavanagh, Director of Services, who has responsibility for Ballinasloe Town Council, to see if the matter can be considered further. In reply to Cllr. McClearn, the County Manager said that assistance to the agricultural shows would be considered in the context of the Economic Activity Grants.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 27th January, 2003 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Dep. Connaughton, seconded by An Comh. O'Foighil.

REPORTS

1899

It was agreed to defer the Report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting on the 10th February 2003, until items 6, 7 and 8 of the agenda, had been dealt with.

The Report of the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on the 9th December, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by An Comh. O'Foighil.

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF THE ROADS ACT, 1993:-

1900

- (a) On the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:

Road commencing at the junction with county road 4503 in the townland of Mountscribe and extending due eastwards for a length of 108 metres all in the Townland of Mountscribe – Loughrea.

- (b) On the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Regan, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

The road extending from the end of the existing public road in the townland of Keamsella West, (which is 512 metres north-west of the junction of county road 8560 and county road 85601) north –westwards for a distance of 65 metres all in the townland of Keamsella West, Kilcolgan – Loughrea.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF TUAM SWIMMING POOL

1901

Report dated the 14th February, 2003 had been circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of Cllr. S. Quinn, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn.

Members welcomed the fact that the development of a 6 Lane Swimming Pool for Tuam could now be progressed and thanked the staff of the Council for their endeavours in securing the 6 lane pool.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 ON THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTY COUNCIL LAND AT KNOCKAUNGLASS, ATHENRY, CO. GALWAY.

1902

Report dated the 22nd January, 2003 had been circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Regan it was agreed to the exchange of the lands between Galway County Council and Rinnbreac Properties Ltd., subject to the conditions outlined in Report of the 22nd January 2003.

TO CONSIDER SUBMISSIONS/OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED ON THE MATERIAL ALTERATIONS/AMENDMENTS ON THE GORT TOWN DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN 1903

Report on Submissions received on the 2nd Material Alterations and Amendments to the Gort Town Draft Development Plan 1999

The 2nd Material Alterations and Amendments Document to the Draft Gort Development Plan 1999 was on public display from the 7th November 2002 to the 5th December 2002. During this display period one submission was received with respect to the amendments. The principle issue raised in this submission together with observation is as follows:

SUBMISSION 1

SUBMITTED BY: MS. AILEEN DOYLE,
SENIOR ADVISOR,
DOELG,
CUSTOM HOUSE, DUBLIN 1.

Issue: Town Plans / Local Area Plans

Summary: Request made to consider the issue raised on Town Plans as part of the submission on the Draft County Development Plan.

Response: The Department have requested that the issue raised as part of the submission of the 24th July 2002 to the Draft County Development Plan be considered. (copy attached)

Recommendation: Take into consideration the content of the Departments submission.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed that the submission should be noted.

It was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham and agreed to note the submission.

Additional items raised at the Area Committee meeting relating to the Gort Town Draft Plan

Mr. Kavanagh stated that he Area Committee had been advised that 2 late submissions were received. The first was from the Office of Public Works regarding areas located in the flood plain of the Gort River (lands identified in submission 1 and 2). The second was from Joseph J Mc Inerney, Auctioneers regarding lands at Ballyhugh, Gort. This submission did not relate to the Material Alteration Document on display.

Area Committee

Recommendation:

The Area Committee agreed that as they were late submissions they should not be considered.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed that the late submissions should not be considered.

Mr. Liam Kavanagh advised the Members that the Council was now in a position to adopt the Gort Draft Plan subject to the Department of Environment's approval. Mr. Kavanagh stated that when the review of the Gort plan falls due, which will be within two years of the adoption of the Co. Development Plan, its provisions will have to be in compliance with the said Co. Development Plan and this will include the area of land zoned for residential purposes.

TO CONSIDER SUBMISSIONS/OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED ON THE MATERIAL ALTERATIONS/AMENDMENTS ON THE LOUGHREA TOWN DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN 1904

Report on Submissions received on the 2nd Material Alterations and Amendments to the Loughrea Town Draft Development Plan 1999

The 2nd Material Alterations and Amendments Document to the Draft Loughrea Development Plan 1999 was on public display from 7th November 2002 to the 5th December 2002. During this display period two submissions were received with respect to the amendments. The principle issues raised in these submissions together with recommendations are contained in this report.

SUBMISSION 1

SUBMITTED BY:

**MR. PETER WALSH,
ENGINEERING INSPECTOR,
NRA, ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE,
WATERLOO ROAD, DUBLIN 4**

Issue: Roads and Transportation

Summary:

The proposed rezoning of lands from agricultural to industrial in the townland of Greeneenagh would be undesirable and is incompatible with national route requirements (plots 4 and 5):

This is indicated in points raised in the submission including that the proposed rezoning would create hazardous traffic movements and result in reductions in safety and capacity of the proposed by-pass. (see attached submission).

Rezoning of lands north of the proposed by-pass would create a precedent. Development of this nature would effectively reduce the proposed N6 by-pass to an inner relief road. This would be incompatible with national route development requirements.

The alignment of the proposed by-pass is well defined. The NRA recommends that the southern boundary of the proposed by-pass be adopted as the northern limit of zoning for the development of Loughrea and to keep access to the new N6 to an absolute minimum. This will effectively reduce hazardous turning movements and help preserve levels of safety and the capacity of the proposed by-pass.

In the event of the proposed rezoning of plots 4 and 5 being adopted, the NRA anticipates that land acquisition costs associated with the proposed by-pass will greatly increase. Under such circumstances a revised cost benefit analysis of the scheme would have to be undertaken. As there are a large number of schemes currently competing for scarce resources to allow for their advancement, any relative advantage that the proposed Loughrea by-pass might currently have over other schemes could quickly be eroded.

Response:

Section 3.7 of the 1st Material Alteration Document (October 2001) includes the following transport policies:

- 'To prohibit development on lands which are reserved for the provision of a town by-pass and where development would affect the route, line, level or layout of any proposed new roadway or the improvement, widening, realignment of an existing roadway.
- To ensure that the N6 National Route is reserved as a through route, by minimising new accesses or the material intensification of existing accesses.' (page 13)

Map 1 illustrates a detailed alignment of the proposed by-pass in relation to plot 4 and 5. All of plot 5 and a portion of plot 4 are to the north of this route.

Recommendation: Taking into consideration the issues raised in the NRA submission and existing transport policies, it is recommended that the proposed zoning of these lands, in particular lands north of the proposed route would not constitute proper planning and sustainable development.

Council officials have previously advised that there are sufficient lands zoned for industrial purposes.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee decided not to accept the recommendation of the officials and decided there should be no change to the Material Alteration document that was on public display.

Sen. Burke proposed that the lands north of the line of the by-pass route and identified as Plot No. 5 on the map which had been circulated, should not be zoned industrial. He said such a decision would only have the effect of enhancing the value of the land involved. He said that nothing should hinder the development of the Loughrea by-pass. Cllr. McClearn referred to letter dated 20th February 2003 from the NRA, which indicated their concern at the Councils proposals to zone these lands. He said that he was concerned that money being provided for the by-pass may now be used in some other area because of this zoning issue. He said that members of the Council were concerning themselves with matters of compensation whereas they should be acting in the common good. Cllr. Loughnane said that the letter dated 20th February 2003 from the NRA did not take into account that there was no proposal to provide access from the lands in question onto the by-pass. He said that it was a first class site for warehousing in Loughrea post by-pass.

Dep. McHugh said that it would be irresponsible to zone the lands as suggested, as it may be putting the future of the by-pass in jeopardy. Dep. Connaughton said that sourcing funding for the by-pass had been difficult and accordingly the Council should not hinder its development at this stage. He said that it had been pointed out to him by the NRA that the zoning as proposed would put that funding in jeopardy. Cllr. Hynes said that the present by-pass corridor wasn't the original corridor and that the public should be made aware of all the routes that have been proposed and the reasons for the changes. Cllr. Joyce said that the Loughrea Area Councillors had voted in favour of the proposal to zone the lands and the Council should support that view. Cllr. J.J. Mannion said that the Loughrea by-pass is a matter of concern for the whole of the county. He said that if the Council make decisions, which have the effect of increasing land values, then there may be a re-prioritisation of the project by the NRA. He asked the Council not to give the NRA an excuse to take away the proposed funding.

The County Manager said that the Council was about to make an important decision for Loughrea and for the whole county. He said that careful consideration had to be given to any proposal to zone lands north of the proposed by-pass. He reminded the Council that they had been advised by the NRA, the Council's planning officials, and by himself, not

to zone the lands in question. He said that this could be the Councils last opportunity to provide a by-pass for Loughrea.

Sen. Burke stated that there were 2 no. plots of land about which the NRA had made a submission. These were shown as numbers 4 and 5 on the map, which had been circulated. In the case of plot no. 5 the entire plot was outside the line of the proposed by-pass. In the case of plot no. 4, part of the land was outside the line of the road. He said it was always the intention of the Area Committee that only that part of plot no.4 south of the line of the by-pass road be zoned industrial. The members agreed to take a vote on each of the plots of land, marked 4 and 5, which were the subject of the submission by the NRA. In relation to **Plot no. 4**, it was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane and seconded by Cllr. Cunningham, that only the lands south of the proposed by-pass route be zoned industrial and the lands north of the by-pass route be zoned agricultural.

A vote was taken on this proposal which resulted as follows:

AR SON: Deps. Connaughton, Grealish, P. McHugh, Sen. Burke, Cllrs. Connolly, Conneely, Cunningham, Fahy, Gavin, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, McClearn, McDonagh, Mullins, O'Malley, O'Sullivan, S. Quinn, K. Quinn, Rabbitte, Regan. (24)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the proposal carried.

In relation to **Plot no. 5**, it was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham "that the lands in the townland of Greeneenagh and shown marked "5" on map number 1 entitled Second Material Alterations to the Loughrea Town Draft Development Plan, but excluding the area reserved for the Bypass corridor, be zoned industrial".

It was proposed by Sen. Burke and seconded by Cllr. McClearn that these lands not be zoned industrial. A vote was taken on Cllr. Loughnane's proposal, which resulted as follows:

AR SON: Cllrs. Connolly, Conneely, Cunningham, Fahy, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, Loughnane, O'Malley, O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, Rabbitte, Regan. (13)

IN AGHAIDH: Sen. Burke, Deps. Connaughton, Grealish, Cllrs. Gavin, J.J. Mannion, McClearn, McDonagh, Mullins, S. Quinn. (9)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the proposal carried.

SUBMISSION 2

SUBMITTED BY: MS. AILEEN DOYLE,
SENIOR ADVISOR,
DOELG,
CUSTOM HOUSE, DUBLIN 1

Issue: Town Plans / Local Area Plans

Summary: Request made to consider the issue raised on Town Plans as part of the submission on the Draft County Development Plan.

Response: The Department have requested that the issue raised as part of the submission of the 24th July 2002 to the Draft County Development Plan be considered. (copy attached)

Recommendation: Take into consideration the content of the Departments submission.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee noted this submission.

It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham and agreed that the submission from DOELG be noted.

Additional Submissions received not relating to Material Alterations on display

Three additional submissions were received on the Loughrea Plan, which do not relate to the material alterations on display. They included the following:

SUBMISSION 1

SUBMITTED BY: SENATOR ULICK BURKE MCC
CONSTITUENCY OFFICE,
MAIN STREET, LOUGHREA.

Issue: Listed Building

Summary: Submission relates to proposal in Draft County Development Plan. Requests that the Old Railway Station Masters House is not included as Listed Building.

Observation: This is not relevant to the material alteration document that was on public display. It should be noted however that this issue will be addressed in the Council assessment of the Manager's Report of Submissions received on the Proposed Protected Structures in the Draft County Development Plan (under submission 29).

SUBMISSION 2

SUBMITTED BY: MICHAEL DUNNE,
'PEMBERLEY', GREAT CONNELL,
NEWBRIDGE, CO. KILDARE

Issue: Land Use Zoning

Summary: Rezone 2.7 hectares (6.7 acres) from agricultural to residential purposes at Cosmona, Loughrea

Observation: While noted, this is not relevant to the material alteration document that was on display.

SUBMISSION 3

SUBMITTED BY: CONOR HAYES CONSULTING ENGINEERS
LTD.,
DUNLO STREET, BALLINASLOE, CO.
GALWAY
ON BEHALF OF MICHAEL BURKE

Issue: Land Use Zoning

Summary: Rezone 1.29 hectares (3.19 acres) from agricultural to residential purposes at Cosmona, Loughrea

Observation: While noted, this is not relevant to the material alteration document that was on display.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed that, as the above three submissions were not relevant to the Material Alterations on display, they should not be considered.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed that consideration should not be given to the above three submissions, as there were not relevant to the Material Alterations on display.

Additional items raised at the Area Committee Meeting relating to the Loughrea Town Draft Plan

Late Submission:

The Area Committee was advised that a late submission were received that did not relate to the material alterations on display. This was from Gabriel Dolan and Associates regarding lands at Cottage Hill, Loughrea.

Area Committee Recommendation:

The Area Committee agreed that as the submission was not relevant to the Material Alteration Document on public display it should not be considered.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Correspondence from Loughrea Chamber of Commerce:

The Area Committee agreed to consider correspondence from the Loughrea Chamber of Commerce about lands in the townland of Gorteenaphebera and Caherlavine. The Chamber of Commerce objected to these lands being zoned commercial as such a change would have a detrimental effect on the town center and policies in the Loughrea Draft Plan to maintain the town center as the commercial center. They also expressed reservation of the rezoning of land adjacent to the proposed by-pass.

Area Committee Recommendation:

The Area Committee agreed on no change to the Loughrea Plan and to retain the zonings on lands at Gorteenaphebera and Caherlavine as per the Draft Plan on display.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

The Report of the Loughrea Area Committee meeting held on 10th February 2003, were considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy.

**TO CONSIDER SUBMISSIONS/OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED ON THE
MATERIAL ALTERATIONS/AMENDMENTS ON THE ATHENRY TOWN
DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN** 1905

Material alterations to the 1999 Draft Development Plan for Athenry were on public display from 7th November 2002 until the 5th December 2002. During this display period 2 submissions were received with respect to the amendments. The principle issues raised in these submissions together with recommendations are contained in this report.

SUBMISSION 1

SUBMITTED BY: MS. AILEEN DOYLE,
SENIOR ADVISOR,
DOELG,
CUSTOM HOUSE, DUBLIN 1

Issue: Town Plans / Local Area Plans

Summary: Request made to consider the issue raised on Town Plans as part of the submission on the Draft County Development Plan.

Response: The Department have requested that the issue raised as part of the submission of the 24th July 2002 to the Draft County Development Plan be considered.

Recommendation: Take into consideration the content of the Departments submission.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed that the submission should be noted.

It was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Loughnane and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

SUBMISSION 2

SUBMITTED BY: Mr. James F. Kearns,
Clarke Street Residents Association,
Clarke Street,
Athenry, Co. Galway

This submission contains a number of points, four of which are relevant to the Material Alterations that were on display. They are as follows:

Issue: Land Use Zoning

Summary: Taylor Town House Area should not be zoned commercial/residential but residential only.

Response: The western half of these lands, which contains the ruins of Athenry house and a modern bungalow, was zoned residential in the existing 1992 Plan. The eastern half was zoned 'Agricultural' in the 1992 Plan and 'Amenity and Open Space' in the 1999 Draft Plan. In relation to the eastern portion of this site, Council officials have previously advised not to zone the lands residential.

An appraisal carried out on behalf of the Heritage Council emphasised the International heritage significance of the walled town of Athenry. In particular, it is one of only a handful of towns in Western Europe, which still has significant amounts of agricultural land within the town walls.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the proposed zoning of the eastern portion of the site would not constitute proper planning and sustainable development and these lands be amended to 'Amenity and Open Space' as in the 1999 Draft Plan or 'Agricultural' as in the 1992 Plan.

In light of previous residential zoning on the western portion of the site, a mix of commercial and residential development is considered appropriate where the design, density and scale does not detract from the distinctiveness of Athenry's historic town center. This is also dependent on adequate access, which would not further congest the existing street network.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed on no change to the Material Alteration Document that was on public display and to maintain the Commercial/Residential zoning with a 30m buffer along the town wall.

It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Issue: Residential Amenity

Summary: Ensure the vitality and viability of the town centre especially its residential function, is not compromised if the land-use zoning is changed.

Response: It is the intention of the Plan to protect and enhance the amenity of existing residential communities within the town walls and residentially zoned areas.

Recommendation: No alteration.

Area Committee

Recommendation The Area Committee noted these comments.

It was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Issue: Roads and Transportation

Summary: Zoning of lands will impact on vitality and viability of town centre and residents without the provision and implementation of relief roads.

Response: The Draft Plan contains policies and objectives to develop a safer and improved road network that will benefit the town. In addition, the Material Alteration Document to the Draft County Plan includes an objective to construct inner relief roads and a ring road around Athenry (section 3.4, objective 17, 18).

The implementation of policies and objectives will have regard to the 'Non National Roadwork's Plan' where resources permit.

Recommendation: No alteration.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed that the submission should be noted and proposed that Mr. Kearns be sent a copy of the Area Committee Minutes outlining the issues raised in the response.

It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Issue: Heritage

Summary: Query raised how Athenry town could be both a commercial and heritage centre without clearly identifying the factors that are necessary to make it a heritage town and divorce the commercial

interests that predominate. Plan seems contradictory and an unworkable concept.

Response: The development strategy for Athenry contains a key objective to protect and enhance the function and townscape of the town centre as a commercial and heritage centre.

The Draft Plan contains policies, which aim to achieve this balance between development and conservation. For example, section 4.11 contains policies to protect Athenry's heritage and requires that the design of all new development should take account of the character and heritage of the town especially within and adjacent the town walls.

The merits of each application will be considered at development control stage in light of these policies in the Plan.

Recommendation: No alteration

**Area Committee
Recommendation:**

It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Additional items raised in Submission 2 not relating to Material Alterations on display

Four additional items were raised in Submission 2, which did not relate to the material alterations on display. They included the following:

Issue: Land Use Zoning

Summary: Cross Street, Clarke Street, Old Church Street and Swangate should be zoned residential/commercial and not commercial only.

Observation: This is not relevant to the Material Alteration Document that was on display. However it should be noted that residential development in this area is permitted in principle.

Issue: Land use zoning

Summary: Extend the town boundary to provide for the relocation of the Mid-West Farmers Co-op to a zoned area adjacent to the cattle mart and other farming interests.

Observation: This is not relevant to the Material Alteration Document that was on public display. An adequate level of lands has been zoned to allow for this type of development within the Plan area (i.e. adjacent lands zoned commercial and industrial).

Issue: Participation in Planning Process

Summary: Requests that the public are informed of the progress of the Plan and other local interests by way of public seminars or meetings.

Observation: This is not relevant to the Material Alteration Document that was on public display. However the plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out under of the Planning Act 1963. The making of new Plans will explore options for greater public involvement.

Issue: Transportation

Summary: Disappointed that the promotion of the railways and re-instatement of the railway connections at Athenry have not been included as a key development objective in the Draft Plan.

Observation: This is not relevant to the Material Alteration Document that was on public display. It should be noted that the Plan contains a key development objective to improve and extend then physical infrastructure of the town including sanitary services (section 3.3, objective viii).

Section 4.5 also contains policies to develop safer and more efficient transportation links between Athenry and Galway City and other local towns including the development of a public transport service.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed that, as the above additional items were not relevant to the Material Alterations on display, they should not be considered.

It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Additional items raised at the Area Committee meeting relating to the Draft Athenry Plan

Deputation from Benny and Anne Gibbons and Peter Melly on behalf of the Ballygurrana Residents Association:

A deputation was received at the meeting from members of the Ballygurrana Residents Association regarding the Athenry Plan. This related to 2 parcels of land – Parsons Fairgreen and land at Ballygurrana South. The Material Alteration Document on display identified the zoning of these lands as residential; the 1999 Draft Athenry Plan identified these lands as agricultural.

In relation to Parsons Fairgreen, they highlighted that the site was of National and International heritage significance and outlined their concerns that the rezoning of this land would impact on the heritage significance of the site. They also highlighted that the road serving this land is very narrow and had traffic safety concerns. In relation to lands at Ballgurrana South, they requested that these lands be zoned amenity.

Area Committee

Recommendation: The Area Committee agreed on the need to preserve the Cross at Parsons Fairgreen and in the event of a planning application being lodged, the Planning Authority is obliged to consult with Duchas and take into account the heritage significance of the site. The Area Committee agreed on no change to the Material Alteration Document that was on display and to maintain the zonings of residential on the lands identified.

It was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed to accept the recommendation of the Area Committee.

Mr. Ridge stated that at the Loughrea Area Committee meeting, the procedures which the Council had to go through in extending the period for adoption of the scheduled Town Plans, had been outlined. Mr. Ridge stated that the Council were not in a position to adopt the Plans today, but the Council's acceptance to the contents of the Plans is needed.

TO APPROVE DRAFT PARKING BYE-LAWS 2003 AND DRAFT CAR PARK BYE-LAWS 2003.

1906

Report dated the 14th February, 2003 had been circulated to each Member

On the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn, it was agreed to approve the Draft Parking Bye-Laws 2003 and the Draft Car Park Bye-Laws 2003.

ROADS PROGRAMME 2003

1907

Report dated the 18th February 2003 had been circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. K. Quinn, seconded by Cllr T. Mannion it was agreed to adopt the Roads Programme for 2003.

Members for the Loughrea Electoral Area expressed their dissatisfaction and disappointment at the amount of funding allocated to their area. They said they had looked for €680,000 and only got €150,000, while other areas had managed to get more than they had looked for. Mr. Morgan explained how the submissions were made to the Department and informed the Members that €4.548 million had been requested and that the Council got €3.72 million. It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Fahy and agreed that a letter be sent to DOELG, requesting a meeting of the members of the Loughrea Area committee with a Senior official in the Department to discuss this issue.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

1908

Mr. Morgan said that it was proposed to changeover to metric speed limits by the middle of 2004. Following discussion, it was agreed, that this matter be discussed at the next Roads S.P.C. Meeting, and then brought back to the full Council for consideration.

MAYORS BUSINESS

1909

The Mayor informed the Members that he would be representing the Council in Sydney for the St. Patricks Day Celebrations.

CONFERENCES

1910

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Loughnane, 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:-

**“Nuclear Safety & Security: Issues for Local Authorities”, Millennium Hall, Cork.
20th/21st March 2003**

Dep. P. McHugh, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, P. Hynes, M. Loughnane.

**“Health Services in Ireland – Current Issues” – Association of Health Boards in Ireland, Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny
21st/22nd March 2003**

Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta

**“The relevance of Local Government to young people today and the impact of Local Government on Communities”, Duhallow Park Hotel, Kanturk.
27th/30th March 2003**

Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, M. Mullins, Comh. Ni Fhatharta, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, K. Quinn.

**“The Future of Regional & Cohesion policy in an enlarged Europe: The Implications for Ireland”, Hotel Kilkenny, Kilkenny
23rd/24th May 2003**

Dep. P. McHugh

**“Women Making a Difference – How Female Political Representation Makes a Difference to Peace, Politics and Prosperity”, Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny
29th May 2003**

Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, Cllr. K. Quinn

**“The Fighting Irish 69th Regiment New York – Ballymote Community Enterprise Ltd”, Coach House Hotel, Ballymote, Co. Sligo
9th/10th May 2003**

Cllr. J. McDonagh

**“One-Off Rural Housing – Is there an Alternative – North Tipperary County Council”, Abbey Court Hotel, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.
20th/21st February 2003**

Cllrs. M. Hoade, P. O'Malley

**“Avoiding the New Digital Divide”, Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath
3rd February 2003**

Cllr. P. O'Sullivan

**“Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland – Spring Seminar 2003”, Holiday Inn, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal
14th/15th February 2003**

Cllrs. M. Connolly, M. Hoade, J. Joyce, K. Quinn

**“Colmcille Winter School Conference”, Gartan, Churchill, Co. Donegal
28th February – 2nd March 2003**

Cllrs. M. Connolly, J. Joyce, J. McDonagh, M. Mullins, P. O'Malley, K. Quinn, T. Walsh

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 13 – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS 1911

The following reply was given:-

“There is an allocation of €45,720 in this year’s budget for this road and it will be reconstructed in 2003.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 14 – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS 1912

The following reply was given:-

“No funds are provided in the estimates for this work in 2003. The bridge is on a straight stretch of road and would require extensive funds to widen due to its length. Additional signage can be provided to further warn motorists of this narrow bridge.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 15 – CLLR. M. FAHY & CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM – TRAFFIC LIGHTS 1913

The following reply was given:-

“Galway County Council will be preparing a Traffic Management Plan later this year for Gort. A low cost accident scheme has also been prepared for this location. The provision of Traffic lights at this point in time is premature. A further complication arises due to the queuing inadequacy of the Limerick approach on the N18 at this junction.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 – CLLR. M. FAHY – IMPROVEMENT WORK 1914

The following reply was given:-

“Money was allocated to this road in 2002. Funding for this year is based on a condition survey which places other National roads on a higher priority basis than the road referred to.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 – CLLR. M. FAHY – SAFETY 1915

The following reply was given:-

“Edge strengthening will be carried out prior to surface dressing where the existing widths allow.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 18 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – RUMBLE STRIPS 1916

The following reply was given:-

“The provision of rumble strips will be considered near the school at Lackagh should funding be made available.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 19 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – PLANNING

1917

The following reply was given:-

“The issue of completion of the Carraig Mor Housing Estate in Lackagh has been reported on to the Oranmore Electoral Area Committee, at their recent meeting.

They were advised that the outstanding items for the completion of this estate were minor and the residents should pursue the developer. However, the members at the area meeting requested that the Council take up the outstanding issue with the developer and this is being done.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 20 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – CEMETERIES 1918

The following reply was given:-

“The Council will examine this proposal and will revert back to the Councillor. The undertaking of the proposed works will depend on the estimated cost and the availability of funding.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 21 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – FLOODING

1919

The following reply was given:-

“It will be necessary to channel water through adjoining lands in order to relieve flooding at this location and the Council is endeavouring to negotiate permission to do this with the landowner concerned.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 22 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – PARKING

1920

The following reply was given:-

“Disabled parking spaces will be provided when the Headford Traffic Plan is being formulated.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 23 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – SEWERAGE SCHEME

1921

The following reply was given:-

“The Council is currently dealing with the Department of the Environment and Local Government in relation to agreeing a brief for the appointment of Consultants for similar small sized schemes which have been approved by the Department to enter planning. Once the brief has been agreed the Council will use the brief to appoint Consultants for Creggs. It is not possible at this stage to say with any certainty when design documentation would be complete but it could be between six months and a year.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – ROADS

1922

The following reply was given:-

“ Tá airgead curtha ar fáil don obair seo sa chlár oibreacha i gcoir 2003 agus, freisin tá iarratas churtha chuig an Roinn Gnothaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta maidir leis an mbóthar seo.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – ROADS 1923
The following reply was given:-

“Tá obair deisiucháin tosnaithe cheana féin ar na bóithre i gceantar Leitir Caladh.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 26 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – LIGHTING 1924
The following reply was given:-

“Ní aon airgid ar fáil chun an obair seo a dheanamh.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 27 – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN – ROADS 1925
The following reply was given:-

“There are no funds provided for works on this road at present.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN – ROADS 1926
The following reply was given:-

“Manhole lids on the N6 in Ballinasloe will be examined as part of maintenance works in 2003”.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 29 – CLLR. P. O’SULLIVAN – ROADS 1927
The following reply was given:-

“The road will be assessed with a view to preparing an estimate of the cost of repairs”.

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINIÚ ANSIN

Submitted, Approved & Signed

P. O'Sullivan

24/3/03

Date

CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY 27TH
JANUARY, 2003.**

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr James Joyce

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, N. Grealish, Sen. U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comb. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, S. Quinn, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

Oifigigh: Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, F. Gilmore, P. Ridge, Directors Of Services; T. Murphy, A. Comer, D. Barrett, Senior Executive Officers, M. Barnicle, Staff Officer, T Donoghue, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1865

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mrs. Farrell & family, Church Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway.
Mr. Kevin O'Dwyer, Birmingham Road, Tuam, Co. Galway.
Cllr. Tomas Mannion & family, Shruffane, Caltra, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
Mrs. Michael Finnerty, Dunkellin Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway.
Mrs. Ann Tierney, Ballydonagh, Kiltormer, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

SQUARE D FACTORY, BALLINASLOE

1866

Cllr. Joyce, stated that the forthcoming closure of the Square D factory was having a devastating effect on the town of Ballinasloe. He said that many of the workplace were from the adjoining rural area and that the effect of the closure was being felt by much of east Galway. He sympathised with the staff and in particular Cllr. Mullins, HR Manager of the company, and he applauded the efforts he has made with the Tanaiste to promote the town for future investment.

The County Manager expressed his disappointment with the news and stated that along with the closure of AT Cross, industry and commerce in the Ballinasloe area

has been seriously affected. He stated that a simple action plan was needed and that work had commenced on this in co-operation with other agencies in the region e.g. I.D.A., Enterprise Ireland, the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce and the County Enterprise Board and Galway County Council. Meetings have been arranged to discuss this plan and develop the action plan needed to promote Ballinasloe town. The County Manager also advised the members that a review would take place of the decentralisation document for Ballinasloe and that every attempt would be made to promote the town for future investors. He stated that the action plan would be presented to the Government outlining short and long-term measures for the future development of the town.

Cllr. Mullins thanked the members of the Council for their support. He also thanked the County Manager for his prompt action and support. He said there was an excellent workforce and a fine facility there for any interested industrialists. He asked the Oireachtas members on the Council to ensure that Ballinasloe is considered favourably for any future investment. He said that the town had good facilities and good access on to the N6. He said it was more important than ever that Ballinasloe be considered for decentralisation but the town also badly needed an industry.

Following discussion, the following points were made;

1. Square D had operated successfully in Ballinasloe for 31 years and had been a good employer.
2. The company had a clean record in the area of industrial relations and this was a tribute to the work carried out by Cllr. Mullins and the management of the company.
3. Sufficient effort was not made by the Government in preventing the shutdown of the factory.
4. Over the years, Ballinasloe had been omitted from a number of Government initiatives, including the Urban Renewal Scheme and the National Spatial Strategy.
5. Various Government departments should be made aware of what the town has to offer in order that decentralisation would happen.
6. State agencies supported Galway city at the expense of east Galway.
7. Industrial support from the U.S.A. is needed.

Dep. Connaughton proposed that a letter be sent to An Tanaiste and a similar one to the Chief Executive Officer of I.D.A., Ireland *"to demand that Ballinasloe town and its hinterland be given absolute priority in the identification of a suitable industrial project, capable of replacing jobs lost in the town for the past 5/7 years"*. This was seconded by Sen. Burke and agreed.

Sen. Burke proposed that a letter be sent to the Minister for Finance asking *"that this Council request the Minister for Finance, Mr. Charles McCreevy, to extend the current pilot scheme for the upper Shannon region to the mid Shannon region and incorporate Ballinasloe and that tax designation be given to this new area so as to allow inward investment to regenerate the area, which has lost so heavily over the recent past"*. This was seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh and agreed.

The Minutes of the Special Meetings of the Council held on the 25th November, 29th November, 6th December, 9th December, 11th December and the 16th December, 2002 and the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 16th December 2002 were deferred.

REPORTS

1868

The Report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 10th December, 2002 was considered.

It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion.

The Report of the Cultural and General Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 13th December, 2003 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr K Quinn, seconded by Cllr. McDonagh.

The Report of the Roads and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 9th December, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Comh. Ní Fhartharta.

In reply to Cllr. Gavin, the County Manager agreed to issue a copy of the Councils policy in relation to taking in charge of roads to the members of the Council.

The Report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on the 9th December, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Rabbitte.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 13th November, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhartharta, seconded by Cllr O'Malley.

The report of the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on the 12th November, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr K Quinn.

The report of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee Meeting held on 4th October, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Cllr S Quinn.

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF ROADS ACT 1993

1869

- (a) On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded Sen. Burke, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Loughrea Area

Road commencing at junction with county road 4505 in the townland of Creglucas. It extends eastwards for a distance of 167 metres all in the townland of Creglucas

(b) On the proposal of Cllr. Rabbitte, seconded Cllr Mullins, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Ballinasloe Area

Road commencing at junction with road 4301 and extending south for a distance of 330 metres in the townland of Annaghcallow

(c) On the proposal of Cllr. Rabbitte, seconded Cllr Hoade, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Oranmore Area

Road commencing at junction with regional road R348 and extending south for a distance of 208 metres in the townland of Moyveela

(d) On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded Cllr Hynes, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Gort Area

Road commencing at the end of the existing public road which is 140 metres north of the junction of county road 85902 and 85903 in the townland of Ballylara. It then extends north-eastwards for a distance of 90 metres all in the townland of Ballylara

(e) On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded Cllr Hynes, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Loughrea Area

Road commencing at junction with county road 8580 in the townland of Roveagh. It extends northeastwards for a distance of 63 metres all in the townland of Roveagh

Senator Burke stated that he wanted a review of the conditions with regard to the declaration of roads to be public roads. Mr. Barrett stated that this matter was discussed at a recent SPC meeting and it was agreed to have it further examined at the next Roads & Transportation SPC meeting.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – TUAM REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME – (STAGE 2) – L ZONE EXTENSION 1870

Report dated 21st January, 2003 was circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – DUNMORE SEWERAGE SCHEME. 1871

Report dated 21st January, 2003 was circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn.

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA AND ENVIRONS FOR PERMISSION FOR THE ERECTION OF 30 NO. TOWNHOUSES AND ALL ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AND TO DEMOLISH EXISTING DWELLINGHOUSE AT ENTRANCE IN THE TOWNLAND OF BAUNOGE. 1872

Planning Reference No. 02/3688 Applicant: O'Rourke & Sons

Mr. Comer gave details of the application referring to report dated 23rd January 2003, which had been circulated in advance.

APPLICANT: O'Rourke & Sons, c/o Cyril J. Kelly & Associates, Unit 29, Kilkerrin Park, Liosban, Tuam Road, Galway

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Permission for the erection of 30 no. townhouses and all associated site works and to demolish existing dwellinghouse at entrance.

LOCATION: The site is located in the townland of Baunoge, with access from Cross Street, Loughrea

PLANNING HISTORY: 01/510 ⇒ Permission for 20 houses and full permission for site development works. This application was Withdrawn.

02/1592 ⇒ Permission for 30 no. townhouses and all associated site works and demolition of existing dwelling at entrance. This application was Withdrawn.

ASSESSMENT: The proposed development is an acceptable extension of the residential development in Loughrea Town. The site is partially zoned for Residential Development in the current Development Plan for Loughrea Town and Environs. The site is serviceable by the public sewer, surface water drains and a public water supply is available subject to the installation of a water pressure booster pump. The site is within walking distance of the Town Centre. The proposed density of approximately 26.4 dwellinghouses per hectare (10.7 dwellinghouses per acre) is acceptable in light of the fact that house no's 22 – 30 are single bedroom units only. The layout, proportion and location of private and public open space is also acceptable.

ZONING: The eastern side of the site is zoned for Residential Development (long term) while the western half of the site is zoned for Community Facilities in the current Loughrea Town Plan and Environs. Under the Draft Development Plan for

Loughrea and Environs, the site has a mixed zoning of Residential, Agricultural and Community and Institutional.

SUBMISSIONS: There are no submissions or objectors to this proposed development.

RECOMMENDATION: The development as proposed is acceptable in terms of layout and density and is compatible with the existing mix of land uses in the vicinity. Accordingly, a recommendation to contravene the current Loughrea Development Plan is recommended.

It is recommended to grant with conditions.

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 34(6)(a) of the 2000 Planning Act.

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 17th December 2002 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections.

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 10th February 2003.

Cllr. Hynes proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by O'Rourke & Sons, for permission for the construction of 30 no. townhouses and all associated site works and to demolish existing dwellinghouse at entrance, and having considered the Report dated 23rd January 2003, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 34(6)(a) of the 2000 Planning Act, hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application.

Cllr. Fahy seconded his proposal. A vote was taken which resulted as follows: -

AR SON: Deps. Callanan, Connaughton, Grealish, Sen. Burke, Cllrs. Conneely, Connolly, Fahy, Gavin, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, McClearn, McDonagh, T. McHugh, Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. O'Malley, S. Quinn, K. Quinn, S. Walsh, T. Walsh. (24)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

Cllr. Regan was not present when this matter was being discussed and accordingly did not participate in discussions or voting on this item.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 211 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.46 ACRES AT BEALADANGAN, CO. GALWAY TO MR. SEAN JOYCE 1873

Report dated 16th December, 2003 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhartharta, seconded by Cllr O'Malley, it was agreed to transfer the land to Mr. Sean Joyce as outlined in the report.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 211 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.50 ACRES AT CASHLAUNDARRAGH, CO. GALWAY TO MS. KATHLEEN O'NEILL (NEE DOOLEY) 1874

Report dated 9th December, 2002 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr Connolly, seconded by Comh. Ní Fhartharta, it was agreed to transfer the land to Mrs. Kathleen O'Neill as outlined in the report.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF A DERELICT HOUSE AT TINKERS HILL, TUAM, CO. GALWAY TO MR. OLIVER CORLESS, BROWNSGROVE, TUAM, CO. GALWAY 1875

Report dated 3rd January, 2003 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr T McHugh, seconded by Cllr Connolly, it was agreed to transfer the site to Mr. Oliver Corless as outlined in the report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1991 – 2001, ROADS ACTS 1993 – 2000. SECTION 85 AGREEMENT WITH GALWAY CITY COUNCIL FOR THE PROVISION OF BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE 1876

Report dated 20th January, 2003 was circulated to each Member.

It was proposed by Comh. Ní Fhartharta, seconded by Cllr. McDonagh, and agreed to authorise Galway City Council to carry our works and to exercise statutory functions in the County Council's administrative area for the purpose of providing a Metropolitan Broadband Network which will serve part of County Galway in the Oranmore area as well as Galway City.

ETHICAL FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE 1877

A report dated the 21st January 2003 was circulated to members outlining the main provisions of Part 15 of the Local Government Act 2001. Mr. Murphy pointed out that members and relevant employees must furnish an annual declaration of interests and the latest date for submission of completed forms was 28th February 2003.

MANAGERS BUSINESS

1878

The County Manager referred to letter dated 14th January 2003 from the NRA, which had been circulated to the members, conveying approval in principle to the proposal that the Loughrea By-Pass should be developed independently of the N6 Ballinasloe to Oranmore scheme.

In relation to the NRA's request that the Council advise them as to the outcome of the recent proposal to rezone land in Loughrea, the County Manager said that this would be discussed at a Loughrea Area Committee meeting on 10th February 2003.

A report was circulated to members giving details of Piers projects which the Department of the Marine and Natural Resources propose to undertake this year. It was agreed that this matter be discussed at a Conamara Area Committee Meeting and be brought back to the Council for consideration.

MAYORS BUSINESS

1879

It was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Comh. Ni Fhartharta and agreed to change the date of the Special Meeting of the Council from Friday 14th February 2003 to Friday 7th February at 2pm.

CONFERENCES

1880

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr McDonagh, 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:-

**“Recent Changes in Consumer Needs: What Opportunities these present to Business” – Jurys Hotel, Cork.
6th February, 2003**

Cllrs. M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion.

**“Local Authority Members Association – 20th Annual Conference” – Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
24th/25th April, 2003.**

Deps. J. Callanan, P. McHugh, Sen. U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O’Foighil, Cllrs. P. O’Malley, P. O’Sullivan, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, M. Regan.

**“General Council of County Councils – Planning after the Celtic Tiger – The National Spatial Strategy & its impact on rural and urban Ireland” – Abbey County Hotel, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.
7th/8th February, 2003.**

Dep. P. McHugh, Cllrs. M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O’Foighil, Cllrs. P. O’Malley, P. O’Sullivan, K. Quinn, S. Quinn.

Monthly Meeting 27/01/2003

“Annual Housing Practitioners Conference 2003 – Affordability, Diversity, Quality – The new Housing Challenges” – Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

20th/21st February, 2003.

Dep. P. Connaughton.

“Joint Local Authorities Conference on Nuclear Hazards” – Millennium Hall, City Hall, Cork.

20th/21st March, 2003.

Deps. P. Connaughton, P. McHugh, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, Comh. P. O’Foighil.

“Transport in Ireland – Issues of Access and Sustainability” – Hearn’s Hotel, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

7th/8th March, 2003.

Dep. P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O’Foighil, Cllrs. P. O’Malley, K. Quinn.

“Financing Strategies for Local Authorities” – Corrib Great Southern Hotel, Galway.

17th January, 2003.

Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Hoade, P. O’Sullivan.

“Cumann Merriman – Sceal Liom daoibh”- Leann na Gaeilge agus an Pobal – Fitzpatrick’s Hotel, Bunratty.

31st January, 2003.

Dep. J. Callanan, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, Comh. P. O’Foighil, Cllr. P. O’Malley, M. Regan.

“Colmcille Winter School Conference” – Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartan, Churchill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

28th February – 2nd March, 2003.

Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, P. McHugh, Sen. U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, J. McDonagh, Comh. P. O’Foighil, Cllrs. P. O’Malley, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, M. Regan, T. Walsh.

“Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland – Spring Seminar 2003” – Holiday Inn, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

14th/15th February, 2003.

Dep. P. Connaughton, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, T. Mannion, P. O’Malley, P. O’Sullivan, S. Quinn, M. Regan,

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 14 – SEN. BURKE – SIGNS 1881

The following reply was given:-

“A Speed Limit review has just been completed therefore this is not a location where statutory signs for speed reduction can be erected until another review has occurred. All crossroads and turn-offs are sign posted as per regulations, however, a survey of this road will be carried out within the next month, and any signs required to highlight any bad bend(s) will be erected.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 15 – DEP. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS 1882

The following reply was given:-

“1,600 metres of this road was reconstructed in 2002. It is proposed to reconstruct a further 1,500 metres in 2004.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 – DEP. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS 1883

The following reply was given:-

“Some works have been carried out on this road recently and routine maintenance work will be carried out as required.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 – CLLR. FAHY – PARKING 1884

The following reply was given:-

“Landscaping/Markings will be installed at this location during 2003 to discourage the parking of lorries and cars outside the dwelling house in Kilcolgan.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 18 – CLLR. M. FAHY – ROADS 1885

The following reply was given:-

“The pothole on this road will be repaired within a week. As there is no funding available for this road under existing five year plan it will therefore only be receiving routine maintenance until such time as funds are made specifically available.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 19 – CLLR. M. FAHY – CEMETERIES 1886

The following reply was given:-

“The Council are awaiting a final report from Consultant Archaeologists on the suitability of lands for a burial ground at Drumacoo. This report will then be submitted to Duchás for approval”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 20 – CLLR. J.J. MANNION – PEDESTRIAN CROSSING 1887

The following reply was given:-

"The feasibility of providing a Pedestrian Crossing at St. Joseph's Church/Esso Filling Station/Court House Junction has been referred to Road Design for further investigation in conjunction with the National Roads Authority".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 21 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – ROADS 1888

The following reply was given:-

"This road will be considered for inclusion in the next Road Works Programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 22 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – ROAD WORKS

The following reply was given:-

1889

"This road is included in the Early Starts Programme for 2003".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 23 – CLLR. J. MCDONAGH – LIGHTING 1890

The following reply was given:-

"The provision of lighting at this location will be considered for inclusion in the next Public Lighting programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – BLUE FLAGS

The following reply was given:-

1891

"Táim le tú a chur ar an eolas gur "Trá Comharthaigh" é trá Chaladh Mhainse gar do Charna agus go bhfuil samplaí usice á thógail as faoi láthair. Níl dóthain airgidíú ag an gComhairle faoi láthair chun an fhorbairt riachtanach a dhéanadh chun go bhféadfaí iarratas a dhéanadh chuig An Taisce ar Bhrat Gorm don trá."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – FIRE STATIONS

The following reply was given:-

1892

"Tá iarratas do Stáisiún Dóiteáin don Cheathrú Rua déanta mar chuid de Chlár Caipiteal Chúig Bhliana an tSeirbhís Dóiteáin, 2001-2005, a seoladh chuig an Roinn Comhshaoil agus Rialtas Áitiúil in 2001. Tá an Comhairle ag fanacht le eolas ó "Coiste Cháirde Mhic Dara", eagraíocht deonach aithíochta, maidir le ceannacht talún and forbairt tithíocht shóisialta ar An gCeathrú Rua. Tá sé i gceist cuid den talamh seo a úsáid do Stáisiún Doiteán. Beidh forbairt an Stáisiún Dóiteáin ag brath ar cheadúnas agus airgidíú ón Roinn".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 26 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – WATER SCHEMES

The following reply was given:-

1893

"Ta an Roinn Comhshaoil agus Rialtas Aitiuil agus an Roinn Gnothai Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ag scrudu an t-abhar seo faoi lathair agus ta an Chomairle ag suil le freagra a fhail go gairid".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 27 – CLLR. T. RABBITTE – SEWERAGE SCHEME

The following reply was given:-

1894

"I wish to confirm that the above matters will be examined and a more detailed reply will follow".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – CLLR. T. RABBITTE - FOOTPATHS

The following reply was given:-

1895

"Some works were carried out in Oranmore to make footpaths wheelchair friendly in 2002. Further works will be carried out this year if funding is made available."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 29 – CLLR. T. RABBITTE – ROAD MARKINGS

The following reply was given:-

1896

"These markings will be renewed."

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINIÚ ANSIN

Submitted Approved + Signed

Resulta

24/2/03

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF STATUTORY BUDGET MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 13TH JANUARY, 2003

ILATHAIR

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Mayor P. O' Sullivan

BAILL:

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

OIFIGIH:

Mr. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, John Morgan, F. Gilmore, E. Lusby, F. Dawson, Directors Of Services, M. McGovern, Acting Head of Finance, R. Killeen, J. Eising, L. Gavin, M. Dolly, Senior Engineers, D. Barrett, T. Murphy, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officers, M. Jordan, E. Moloney, Administrative Officers R. O'Boyle, , Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1860

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following: -

Mr. Kevin O'Dwyer, Birmingham Road, Tuam, Co. Galway.

Mr. John Kelly, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

BUDGET 2003

1861

The County Manager referred to the draft Budget for the year 2003, which had been circulated to each member of the Council. He stated that the general report and the reports of the Directors of Services, give an overview of the work of the Council, under each programme group for the year 2002 and a comment on the proposals for the year 2003.

He said that in the year just ended the Council had achieved solid progress across all services and included a number of expansionary measures. The draft Budget for 2003, continues to build further on this progress, albeit, not at the same level as 2002, due to the downturn in the economy and the resultant budgetary implications for the public finances. Economic growth has slowed markedly and signs of recovery are not easy to find and is not being helped by uncertainties in regard to world economies and the Middle East situation. Notwithstanding this, the Council have endeavored to prepare a Budget, which reflects the progressive policies, outlined in the Corporate Plan and in the various service policy proposals adopted by the Council. The objective of continuing to grow the economy of the county through the provision of good infrastructure, is a vital requirement for the attraction of investment and the maximum creation of jobs.

He said there has been a buoyant expansion of services over the past few years – water, drainage, housing, roads, libraries etc., all of which are now adding to the maintenance budget. Revenue expenditure has grown from €57 million in 1995 to €103 million for 2003 and capital expenditure has grown from €28 million to €80 million over the same period. Between revenue and capital, the Council will be spending on average €3.5 million each week during 2003 or €0.7 million, each working day.

He said he would like to acknowledge the input, to the budget preparation process, of the Corporate Policy Group, whom he is required by statute to consult. As a result of this, the provisions in the draft, now presented, have been agreed by and are recommended to Council for adoption by the Corporate Policy Group.

He said the funding gap, between the finances required, to provide a minimum and acceptable level of service delivery and the income available, continues to expand at a growing rate each year and never more so, than in the budget compilation process for 2003. The escalation of this funding gap, and it applies to all local authorities, needs to be addressed as a matter of immediate concern. Otherwise, there is a grave danger, that the entire Better Local Government Renewal Programme and associated improvements, Customer Action Plans, decentralisation and improved policy formulation structures for members, will be discredited because the policy formulation measures and the management structure and systems have been geared up to providing service delivery, beyond the resources available.

He stated that the proposed Rate for 2003 is €53.36 per Unit of Valuation for Galway County and that this represented an increase of €8.84 over the 2002 Rate. He said the proposed 2003 rate was significantly lower than the 2002 Rate levels of adjoining and similar type counties.

He then proceeded to outline the proposed expenditure programme for 2003. In addition to the day to day operational arrangements he highlighted some of the more significant features of the various programmes in the 2003 Budget.

- Continuation of commitment to Disabled Persons and Essential Repair Grants.

Budget Meeting 13/01/2003

- Improved funding for Housing Maintenance Programme
- Village Regeneration initiatives
- Water and Sewerage infrastructure improvements
- Continuation of Waste Management Strategy implementation
- Co-funding for CLAR, Gaeltacht and Islands works to attract grant expenditure.
- Completion of County Development Plan and progression of Town and Village Plans.
- Continued demands of Fire Service and response requirements
- Expansion of Service Delivery Programme
- County Development Strategy Progress
- Funding for - Public Lights (€133,000 from €127,000)
- Arts Programme (€190,000 from €152,369)
- Economic Activity Grants (€130,000 from €127,000)
- Amenity Grants (€155,000 from €152,000)
- Burial Ground Provision
- Level of Councils provision towards Roads maintenance
- Rural Water Programme

He informed the Meeting that he had released Mr. Ernie Lusby, Head of Finance, temporarily, to facilitate and fast forward the organisational development and change management process that the Council are involved in, arising from the Better Local Government Renewal Programme. This Programme is now nearly two years in place and it is also appropriate, given the challenges posed by the downturn in the economy that a review of the effectiveness of the organisation be carried out.

Progress reports on developments in relation to this initiative will be submitted to the CPG.

He then gave a brief summary of the main provisions contained in the different reports of the Directors of Services as they relate to their areas of operation.

He sincerely thanked the Members of the Council for their support and assistance during the past year. In particular, he wished to record his appreciation and thanks to the Mayor, Cllr. Pat O Sullivan, and his predecessor Cllr. Michael Regan, for their commitment and dedication to the special duties of their office and for their courtesy and co-operation to the staff of the Council and himself.

The involvement of the Corporate Policy Group in the Budget process, has clearly indicated that the members of this Council are willing and committed to continuing the implementation of the Better Local Government ideals.

He thanked the Councils Directors of Services, and all the Council staff for their continued commitment and quality of work, He also thanked Mr. E. Lusby, Head of Finance and his staff for their contribution to the compilation and production of the 2003 Budget.

Budget Meeting 13/01/2003

The Mayor thanked the Manager, and invited Councillors to express their views on the Draft Budget.

The Members complimented the Manager and the various Directors of Services on the excellent way in which the Budget had been presented and detailed.

The following views were expressed by the Members in relation to the proposed Budget.

- The elimination of the Cap on County Rates will cause serious hardship for small businesses.
- The increase in County Rates is excessive.
- Rate increase three or four times higher than level of inflation
- Concern was expressed that the rate base was not fully realised due to the strike in the Valuation Office.
- The €300 Planning Levy is an unfair taxation together with the 1% increase in V.A.T. and the abolition of the First Time Home Owners Grant
- The Department of Agriculture should re-imburse the Council for expenditure on Disease Control.
- Directors looked for €17 Million more, therefore there must be cutbacks in level of services
- It is not acceptable that funding was not made available to Galway County Council under the Needs & Resources Model
- It is vital to maintain Disabled Persons and Essential Repair Grants as it allows older people to remain in their homes instead of being transferred to Nursing Homes.
- Put more sewerage schemes in towns as they cannot develop without this infrastructure.
- Concern was expressed that sewerage schemes planned for 2003 would not go ahead.
- It was hoped that N.R.A. Schemes would not be delayed due to the proposed cutbacks.
- It was felt that while Better Local Government is a good concept it will be unworkable without adequate funding
- Commitment was requested that funds would be available in 2003 to progress the Design/Build/Operate Scheme for the Dunmore, Kilkerrin and Leenane Sewerage Schemes
- Administration Costs for Higher Education Grants should be recoupable from the Department of Education. .
- The Provision of Heating in Council Houses was welcomed as this is a necessary requirement.
- The Initiatives taken in relation to Engineering Areas under the Better Local Government Programme were welcomed.
- Decentralisation of Motor Taxation Offices to Areas was deemed very successful.
- It was agreed that the transfer of 30 Staff onto Capital Schemes would help to curtail expenditure.
- Great strides made in Affordable Housing

Budget Meeting 13/01/2003

- While the Councillors welcomed the New Community Wardens Scheme it was felt that more prosecutions should be made in relation to dumping on National Roads.
- The funding of Asylum Seekers should be made directly by the Department of Justice.

Deputy J. Callanan asked that the Dail Deputies present ensure that the Rural Environment Protection Scheme continues to remain in operation.

Referring to the demonstration by the Farming Community, Cllr. T. Walsh said he wished to congratulate the I.F.A and the Farming Community on the professional way in which the demonstration was carried out. He proposed that the Council write to the I.F.A., the Department of Agriculture, and the Taoiseachs Office, conveying its understanding of, and support for the Campaign, and asking for guarantee ensuring the viability of farming community. This proposal was seconded by Deputy Ulick Burke.

Senator Burke asked the Manager not to implement the CLAR Programme as it was not a fair scheme. He referred again to the ever increasing charges being put on the public – increased T.V. Licences Fee, E.S.B.. Motor Taxation, etc.

In reply to a query by An Comh. O'Foighil, the Manager said that an Oifigeach Gaelige would be appointed shortly.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR YEAR 2003

1862

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. Fahy

That Galway County Council hereby adopt the Budget for the financial year ending 31/12.2003 as presented and as set out in the Tables A, B & C of the said Budget with the following amendments:-

- That €50,000 from the Economic Activity Grants Budget be reserved to cover remission of rates on County Marts for the period of the Foot and Mouth closure in 2001.
- That the Development Levy of €300 on Planning Permissions be modified as follows:-

Permissions up to and including 1346 Square Feet - €300
Permissions exceeding 1346 Square Feet - €500

Cllr. T. Walsh requested an adjournment of the Meeting for 15 minutes in order to discuss these amendments. The Mayor stated that as there was a proposer and seconder for the adoption of the Budgets with amendments and no alternative proposal, he was going to ask the members to vote. Cllr. McClearn said if an adjournment could not be given, he would leave the meeting. Deputy Burke said that he understood that the €50,000 would be taken off the Library Budget and not the Economic Activity Grants. Depts. Burke and Connaughton together with Cllrs. J. Mannion, Walsh, O'Foighil and McClearn, then left the Meeting.

Budget Meeting 13/01/2003

A vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON: Dep. Callanan, Cllrs. Connolly, Conneely, Cunningham
Fahy, Hoade, Joyce, Loughnane, T. Mannion, Comh. C.
Ni Fhatharta, Cllrs. O'Malley O'Sullivan, S. Quinn, K. Quinn,
Rabbitte, Regan (16)

IN AGHAIDH. Dep. McHugh (1)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

DETERMINATION OF THE ANNUAL RATE ON VALUATION FOR 2003

1863

The increase in the Development Levy on Planning Permissions resulted in an amendment to the Annual Rate on Valuation from €53.36 to €51.54.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. Fahy -

That Galway County Council hereby determine in accordance with the Budget for the financial year ending 31/12/2003, as amended, the rates as set out in Table B and Table C to be the Rates on Valuation to be levied for the several purposes as set out in those tables for the financial year ending 31/12/2003.

A Vote was taken which resulted as follows:

AR SON: Dep. Callanan, Cllrs. Connolly, Conneely, Cunningham
Fahy, Hoade, Joyce, Loughnane, Mannion, Comh. C.
Ni Fhatharta, Cllrs. O'Malley, O'Sullivan, S. Quinn, K. Quinn,
Rabbitte, Regan (16)

IN AGHAIDH. Dep. P. McHugh (1)

The Mayor declared Cllr. Cunningham's proposal carried and declared that the Rate on Valuation for the various purposes specified in the Budget for the financial year ending 31/12/2003 had been determined by the Council. The prescribed certificate was then signed.

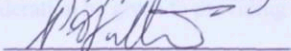
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OUTTURN FOR 2002

1864

On the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Fahy, the Council noted and approved the estimated expenditure and outturn figures for 2002 as set out in the book of Estimates.

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved + Signed



24/2/03

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Date

CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY 16th
DECEMBER, 2002.**

CATHAOIRLEACH: Mayor P. O'Sullivan

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Bail: Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, Sen. U. Burke,
Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham,
M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M.
Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J.
McClearn, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins,
Comh. P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. P. O'Malley, S.Quinn, M.
Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

Oifigigh: Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, T.
Kavanagh, J. Cullen, P. Ridge, J. Morgan, F.
Gilmore, Directors Of Services; E. Lusby, Head of
Finance; T. Murphy, A. Comer, Senior Executive
Officers; Ms. G. Healy, Staff Officer, Ms. T.
Donoghue, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1820

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Mrs. Ann Tierney, Ballydonagh, Kiltormer, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mayor O'Sullivan thanked the Members, the County Manager and the Director of Services and Staff of the Planning Department for the long hours of hard work which they put in to amend the draft County Development Plan and make the County Development Plan.

The Manager thanked Mayor O'Sullivan, the Members, and the staff of the Planning Department for their hard work also and stated that he looked forward to working in a continued spirit of co-operation with the Councillors.

Referring to a letter he had received from Mr. Ridge, Cllr. McHugh complimented the Council on purchasing a premises in Tuam with a view to providing a Regional office. He asked that consideration be given to providing retail outlets as part of the development of the site.

MINUTES

1821

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 11th November, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Fahy.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 15th November, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Mullins.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 22nd November, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. McHugh.

REPORTS

1822

The Report of the Tuam Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 22nd November, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 179 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000, REGARDING THE FOLLOWING: 1823

Construction of 2 no. houses with services at Forest View, Mountbellew.

Report dated 4th December, 2002 was circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Dep. Callanan.

Construction of single rural house with services at Curryulka, Lettermore

Report dated 4th December 2002 was circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Conneely, seconded by Cllr. S. Walsh.

Construction of single rural house with services at Burnthouse, Roscahill.

Report dated 4th December 2002 was circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Gavin, seconded by Cllr. O'Malley.

Construction of single rural house with services at River Road, Spiddal

Report dated 4th December 2002 was circulated to each Member.

The work as proposed was approved on the proposal of An Comh. Ó Foighil, seconded by Cllr. Conneely.

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF GORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 24 NO. DWELLINGHOUSES AND ASSOCIATED EXTERNAL WORKS AT THE GROVE, KININCHA, ROAD IN THE TOWNLAND OF GORT. 1824

Planning Reference No. 00/4954 Applicant: Mr. Sean Joyce.

Mr. Comer gave details of the application, referring to the report dated 11th December, 2002 which was circulated to each Member.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Permission for the construction of 24 dwellinghouses (2 no. detached four bedroom, 14 no. semi-detached four bedroom, 4 no. terraced three bedroom, 4 no. terraced four bedroom) and associated external works at The Grove, Kinincha Road in the townland of Gort

LOCATION: The site is located on the Kinincha Road, Gort in the area known as The Grove.

PLANNING HISTORY: No previous planning history.

ASSESSMENT: The proposed development is a logical extension of the residential development in Gort Town. The site is partially zoned for Residential use in the Draft Plan for Gort Town. The site is readily serviced by the public sewer, public water main and surface water drains. The site is within walking distance of the Town Centre. The density proposed is approximately 8.5 dwellinghouses per acre which is acceptable. The layout and the location of the public open space is also acceptable.

ZONING: The site is partially zoned for Industrial Use in the Gort Town Plan, but the major part of the site is proposed for Residential use in the Draft Plan for Gort Town.

SUBMISSIONS: There are no submissions or objectors to this proposed development.

RECOMMENDATION: The development as proposed is acceptable in terms of layout and density and is compatible with the existing mix of land uses in the vicinity. Accordingly, a recommendation to contravene The Development Plan for the scheduled town of Gort is recommended.

It is recommended to grant with conditions.

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 30th October 2002 and the notice invited members of public to submit representations or submissions. 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.

Cllr. Fahy proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. Sean Joyce for permission for the construction of 24 dwellinghouses (2 no. detached four bedroom, 14 no. semi-detached four bedroom, 4 no. terraced three bedroom, 4 no. terraced four bedroom) and associated external works at The Grove, Kinincha Road in the townland of Gort and having considered the Report dated 11th December, 2002, 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. Regan seconded this proposal. A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: Deps. Callanan, Connaughton, Sen. Burke, Cllrs. Conneely, Fahy, Gavin, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, McClearn, McDonagh, T. McHugh, Mullins, Comh. P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. O'Malley, O'Sullivan, S. Quinn, Regan, S. Walsh. (22)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried. Cllr. Cunningham was not present when this matter was being discussed and accordingly did not participate in discussions or voting on this item.

MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA AND ENVIRONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 11 NO. DWELLINGHOUSES AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES IN THE TOWNLAND OF CUSCARRICK, LOUGHREA 1825

Planning Reference No. 02/892 Applicant: Mr. Gabriel Burke

Mr. Comer gave details of the application, referring to the report dated 11th December, 2002 which was circulated to each Member.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Permission for construction of 11 no. dwellinghouses and associated services at Cuscarrick, Loughrea.

LOCATION: The site is located on the Tulla Hill Road, Loughrea in the townland of Cuscarrick.

PREVIOUS HISTORY: 98/232 – 4 serviced dwellinghouses refused by An Bord Pleanala on 22/04/98.

Applicant was Catherine Fallon. 00/764 – Outline Planning Permission for 10 houses – withdrawn.

Applicant was Gabriel Burke. 00/4717 – Full planning permission for 6 houses and outline planning permission for 4 houses – withdrawn.

Applicant was Gabriel Burke.

ASSESSMENT: The proposed development is a logical extension of the residential development in Loughrea Town. The site is zoned for residential use in the Draft Plan for Loughrea Town and Environs. The site is readily serviced by the public sewer, public water main and surface water drains. The site is within walking distance of the Town Centre and there is a footpath along the roadside boundary of the site. The density proposed is approximately 8.5 dwellinghouses per acre which is acceptable. The layout and the location of public open space is also acceptable.

SUBMISSIONS: There are two submissions from the adjoining landowners (copies enclosed).

1. Gerry Farragher

(a) Protection of privacy and existing residential amenity – raised boundary walls requested.

Response: 2 metre high boundary wall or solid panel fences are required by Condition no. 9.

1. John and Bernice Colohan and Chris and Mary O'Brien.

(a) Protection of privacy and existing residential amenity – raised boundary walls requested.

Response: 2 metre high boundary walls or solid panel fences are required by Condition no. 9.

In reply to Cllr. Loughnane, Mr. Comer confirmed that a 2m high concrete boundary wall would be included as a condition of the planning permission.

ZONING: The site is zoned for Agricultural use in the Loughrea Town and Environs Plan but is proposed for residential use in the Draft Plan for Loughrea Town and Environs.

RECOMMENDATION: The development as proposed would be compatible with the existing residential developments in the immediate vicinity. The density and layout of the development are also acceptable. Accordingly, a recommendation to contravene The Development Plan for the scheduled town of Loughrea & Environs is recommended.

It is recommended to grant with conditions.

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 30th October, 2002 and the notice invited members of public to submit representations or objections. Two 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.

Cllr. Hynes proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. Gabriel Burke for permission for the construction of 11 no. dwellinghouses and associated services in the townland of Cuscarrick, Loughrea and having considered the Report dated 11th December, 2002, 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.

Cllr. Fahy seconded this proposal. A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: Deps. Callanan, Connaughton, Sen. Burke, Cllrs. Conneely, Cunningham, Fahy, Gavin, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, McClearn, McDonagh, T. McHugh, Mullins, Comh. P. O'Foighil, Cllrs. O'Malley, O'Sullivan, S. Quinn, S. Walsh. (22)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried. Cllr. Regan was not present when this matter was being discussed and accordingly did not participate in discussions or voting on this item.

TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – TUAM SERVICED LAND INITIATIVE (BALLYGADDY ROAD) 1826

Report dated 11th December, 2002 was circulated to each Member.

The Report was approved on the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. S. Quinn.

DECLARATION OF A ROAD TO BE A PUBLIC ROAD – SECTION 11 OF THE ROADS ACT, 1993 - **1827**

(a) On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedures having been complied with:-

Oranmore Area

Extension of Local Road 71203 eastwards for a distance of 236 metres in the townland of Bellville Demesne.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2001 **1828**

Each Member was circulated with details of expenditure and income figures for the Revenue and Capital Accounts for the year 2001. Mr. Lusby stated that the total expenditure on all services by the Council in 2001 was €167m and that the Revenue Balance at the end of 2001 was €389,408.

Referring to a similar resolution passed recently by Kilrush Town Council, it was proposed by Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh and agreed *“That this Council calls on the Minister for the Environment and Local Government to provide adequate funding to local authorities to fulfil their functions as outlined in the Local Government Act 2001”*.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 – FINANCIAL PROVISIONS **1829**

Report dated 10th December, 2002 was circulated to each Member.

Mr. Lusby informed the Members that the Minister for the Environment and Local Government had formally commenced and brought into effect Part 12 of the Local Government Act 2001 from 14th November, 2002. He stated that Part 12 of the Act generally consolidated and updated the law in relation to regulations concerning financial procedures and audit and introduced some new provisions which he explained to the Members.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2003. **1830**

The Schedule of Meetings for 2003 was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by An Comh. Ó Foighil, the Schedule of Meetings for 2003 was agreed.

CHAIRS OF STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES **1831**

It was proposed by Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh and agreed that Cllr. T. McHugh be appointed Chair of the Housing Services Strategic Policy Committee and that Cllr. J.J. Mannion would replace Cllr. McHugh on the Environmental & Conservation Services Strategic Policy Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Quinn, seconded by Sen. Burke and agreed that Cllr. Hynes be appointed Chair of the Cultural & General Services Strategic Policy Committee and that an Comh. Pol O'Foighil would replace Cllr. Hynes on the Housing Services Strategic Policy Committee.

EUROPEAN OF THE YEAR AWARD 2002

1832

It was noted that nomination forms for European of the Year Award 2002, had been circulated to each Member and that the latest date for submission of completed nomination forms is 27th December 2002.

The Mayor wished a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous new year to the County Manager, the Members and all the staff of the Council.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 15 – SEN. BURKE – CEMETERIES

1833

The following reply was given:-

“The Council will include this on the 2003 Programme of Works for Improvements to Burial Grounds. However, this is the subject to the availability of funding.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 – SEN. BURKE – CEMETERIES

1834

The following reply was given:-

“The grounds of Poolboy Cemetery will be surveyed to identify if a retaining wall is required. A portion of the front boundary wall will be recessed to provide some parking outside the cemetery.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 – SEN. BURKE – PLANNING

1835

The following reply was given:-

“Once a planning permission has expired on a site (Outline or Full Permission) it does not have any implications for subsequent applications. Each application is considered on its own merit. However, if there is a current (live) permission on the site, this may be taken into consideration if a subsequent permission is lodged for the same site”.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 18 – DEP. CONNAUGHTON – BRIDGES

1836

The following reply was given:-

“It is proposed to include this job in the road works programme for 2003.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 19 – DEP. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS

1837

The following reply was given:-

“Routine maintenance will be carried out at this location and it will be considered for resurfacing if extra funding is made available.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 20 – DEP. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS 1838

The following reply was given:-

“L-43032 Carrowreagh, Killoran: This road is proposed to be resurfaced in 2003 as part of the Non-National Roads Programme.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 21 – CLLR. FAHY – LIGHTING 1839

The following reply was given:-

“Lighting will be installed at this location in 2003 under the Community Lighting Programme.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 22 – CLLR. FAHY - ROADS 1840

The following reply was given:-

“Surfacing works will be carried out at this location in 2003.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 23 – CLLR. FAHY – LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME 1841

The following reply was given:-

“It would not be possible to implement this proposal since all the roads improved under the Local Improvements Scheme over the past ten years would not have complied with the statutory requirements for roads which the County Council is entitled to declare to be public roads. Any particular road which members might propose to declare public will be examined to determine if it is suitable for taking in charge.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – CLLR. JOYCE – IMPROVEMENT WORKS 1842

The following reply was given:-

“This location is not an established village and therefore an integrated plan to include footpaths, drainage and public lighting would not be justified.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – CLLR. JOYCE – WATER SCHEMES 1843

The following reply was given:-

“The Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply Scheme is approved by the Department of Environment and Local Government to enter the planning phase of the current Water Services Investment Programme 2002-2004 for Galway with an estimated cost of €9,800,000.00. The proposal is in response to the requirement of this region described in the Council’s Assessment of Needs as follows: “The scheme consists of the upgrading of the treatment works in Ballinasloe to increase the supply to the town as well as extending the scheme to serve Kiltormer, Aughrim, Cappataggle, Laurencetown, Eyrecourt and Kilconnell; the estimated future demand is 7,075 m³/day and the estimated cost is £7.7 million. The Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply Scheme Stage 1, completed in 2002, provided for extending the town scheme from Ballinure to Laurencetown and included pumping stations, reservoirs, rising

mains and distribution mains. Under the Rural Water Programme, the Kiltormer Group Water Supply Scheme, which was intended to be served under the Stage 2 proposal, has been extended to connect to the Stage 1 scheme recently completed. Furthermore, upgrading and taking-in-charge of the Eyrecourt/Laurencetown Group Water Supply Scheme, areas also intended to be served under Stage 2, has significantly extended the public main network, south-east of Ballinasloe, all undertaken without any material alteration to the treatment works.

The Council must take into account the various reports published since the Preliminary Report was prepared in 1997, for instance the Councils Assessment of Water Needs Report 2000, the Galway Rural Water Strategic Plan, the completion of the Laurencetown Regional Water Scheme extension and the upgrading of the Eyrecourt Group Water Scheme.

There was also a pollution incident at the treatment works in July/August 2001. These issues have raised the important question for the supply/demand balance for the sourceworks.

The Council is now requesting approval from the Department of Environmental and Local Government to review and re-examine the short and long-term potential of the scheme.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 26 – CLLR. JOYCE – SEWERAGE SCHEMES

1844

The following reply was given:-

“The Consulting Engineers have been briefed on the requirements for the updated Preliminary Report. The revised Preliminary Report will be submitted to the Department of Environment and Local Government in January 2003.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 27 – CLLR. LOUGHNANE – ROADS

1845

The following reply was given:-

“Galway County Council are currently discussing the provision of a continuous white line at this location with the Gardai and if the Gardai are in agreement with this suggestion from a safety point of view this line will be put in place as soon as possible.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – CLLR. LOUGHNANE - LIGHTING

1846

The following reply was given:-

“Funds are made available each year for the provision of one set of school flashing lights in each of the Electoral Areas. This school may be considered for inclusion in the school flashing lights programme by the members of the Council.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 29 – CLLR. LOUGHNANE – SPEED LIMITS

1847

The following reply was given:-

"The situation in this matter is as set out in the report of the Senior Engineer Road Design which was sent to you on the 6th December, 2002. Copy of report attached."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 30 – CLLR. MCDONAGH- ROADS 1848

The following reply was given:-

"This roadway will be assessed to establish its suitability for taking in charge."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 31 – CLLR. MCDONAGH – ROADS 1849

The following reply was given:-

"This road will be considered for inclusion in the next review of the roadworks programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 32 – CLLR. MCDONAGH – FLOODING 1850

The following reply was given:-

"This work will be considered for inclusion in future road works programmes."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 33 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – AREA OFFICES

The following reply was given:-

1851

"Galway County Council is negotiating the purchase of a property at High Street, Tuam near the existing Council Offices. It is the Councils intention to provide a regional office in keeping with the objective to decentralise as many council services as practicable to the five electoral areas of the County subject to availability of funding. It would be hoped to commence development at some stage in 2003".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 34 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – ROADS 1852

The following reply was given:-

"This road is included in the roadworks programme for 2004. In the interim routine maintenance works will be carried out on it, as necessary."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 35 – DEP. P. MCHUGH – WATER 1853

The following reply was given:-

"The connection of the Bunatober/Balroebuck group water scheme to the public main will be facilitated by the construction of the L-Zone of the Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme. This project is currently going through Part XIII planning and it is hoped that approval to go to tender will be received early in 2003".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 36 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – PUBLIC LIGHTS

The following reply was given:-

1854

"Níl aon airgead ann chun soilse breise a chuir ar fáil anseo faoi láthair."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 37 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – LAKES 1855

The following reply was given:-

"Déanfar an t-obair i 2003, má bhíonn an t-airgead ar fail."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 38 – COMH. NI FHATHARTA – ROADS 1856

The following reply was given:-

"Déantar é seo mar chuid den ghnáth obair ó lá go lá. Ag an am seo den bhliain bíonn deacrachtaí ann nuair a thiteann an bháisteach trom agus na duilleaga de na crainnte ag an am ceanna."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 39 – CLLR. O'SULLIVAN - FLOODING

The following reply was given:-

1857

"Remedial works were previously carried out to alleviate flooding at this location. Further remedial works will be carried out further up the road to improve the situation."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 40 – CLLR. O'SULLIVAN – ROADS

1858

The following reply was given:-

"L-44011 Tristaun, Aughrim: The council will carry out essential repairs on this stop end road as part of our routine maintenance."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 41 – CLLR. REGAN – ROADS

1859

The following reply was given:-

"There are currently no funds available to carry out repair works at this location but it will be considered for inclusion in the next roadworks programme."

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNÍÚ ANSIN

Submitted, Approved & Signed

[Signature]

24/02/03

Date