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**Galway County Council Archives**

**GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL,  
COUNCIL MINUTES**

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**10 APRIL 2003 - 20 DECEMBER 2004**

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CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup>  
DECEMBER 2004.

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Mayor W Burke

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. S. Canney, S. Connaughton, J. Conneely, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, Comh. S. O'Cuaig, Cllrs. J. Cuddy, M. Fahy, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Tuairisg, Cllrs. M. Regan, T. Reilly, J. Tierney, S. Walsh, T. Walsh, T. Welby, B. Willers.

Oifigigh:

Mr. P. Gallagher, County Manager, Messrs. T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, F. Dawson, F. Gilmore, P. Ridge, Directors of Service; G. Mullarkey, Head of Finance; T. Murphy, County Secretary; A. Comer, C. Wallace, Senior Executive Officers; M. McGovern, Management Accountant; M. Lavelle, Senior Engineer; E. Keaveney, A. Farrell, Administrative Officers, G. Healy, Staff Officer.

**Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.**

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

240

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

Kilcommins Family, Cloonfaughna, Glinsk, Castlereagh, Co. Galway.

Michael & Bernadette Noone, Carramanagh, Oughterard, Co. Galway.

Ms. Carmel Purcell, Caltra, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mr. & Mrs Jim Flanagan, Galway Road, Tuam, Co. Galway.

MINUTES

241

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2004 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Hynes.



## Monthly Meeting 20/12/04

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 29th November 2004 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Comh. Ní Fhatharta.

Cllr. Healy Eames referred to Page 12 of the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 and said that an amendment needed to be made to the following sentence of Minute No. 234 to read as follows: -

“Cllr. Healy Eames proposed that the term “local” be left undefined for a period of 3 months to see if it is working” and this was agreed.

## REPORTS

242

The report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 15th November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The report of the Cultural & General Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 18th November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

Arising from the Report of this Meeting, Cllr. Healy Eames pointed out that “Maree Boys N.S.” which was referred to on page 2 of this report should actually read “Oranmore Boys N.S.” and this was agreed

The report of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. Ní Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Mannion.



**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF  
ROADS ACT 1993** **243**

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

**Extension of Station Road, in the town of Loughrea. The start of the road is 85 metres North of the junction at Station Road and the N6; the Galway to Dublin Road. The end of the road is 64.5 metres further north. The width is 10.1 metres which includes the provision of a footpath on the East side – Loughrea Electoral Area.**

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.4324 HECTARES AT  
WEIR ROAD, TUAM, CO. GALWAY TO ST. BENINS TRAINING CENTRE  
LTD.** **244**

Report dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney, it was agreed to dispose of the site at Weir Road, Tuam to St. Benin's Training Centre Ltd. as outlined in the report.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A  
REINFORCED CONCRETE PARAPET WALL ON TOP OF THE EXISTING  
OFF-SHORE BREAKWATER AT ANNAGHDOWN PIER, ANNAGHDOWN,  
CO. GALWAY.** **245**

Report dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. McDonagh, the proposed construction of a reinforced concrete parapet wall on top of the existing off-shore breakwater at Annaghdown Pier, Annaghdown, Co. Galway was approved.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE  
RURAL HOUSE WITH SERVICES AT CLADDAGHDUFF, CLEGGAN, CO.  
GALWAY** **246**

Report dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Conneely, seconded by Cllr. S. Walsh, the proposed construction of a single rural house with services at Claddaghduff, Cleggan, Co. Galway was approved.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE RURAL HOUSE WITH SERVICES AT BALLYFRUIT, HEADFORD, CO. GALWAY** 247

Report dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. McDonagh, the proposed construction of a single rural house with services at Ballyfruit, Headford, Co. Galway was approved.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – LOUGHREA PLAYGROUND**

248

Report dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Willers, the proposed installation of new play equipment, upgrading of existing play equipment and new surfacing of the play area at the playground, Lake Road, Cuscarrick, Loughrea, Co. Galway was approved.

**AGREEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 85 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 BETWEEN GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL AND BALLINASLOE TOWN COUNCIL RE. TRANSFER OF WATER (& SEWERAGE) FUNCTIONS** 249

Report dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Mannion, it was agreed that an Agreement under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 be entered into between Ballinasloe Town Council and Galway County Council, whereby the water functions of Galway County Council in the administrative area of Ballinasloe Town Council would be carried out by Ballinasloe Town Council for a further year from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2005.

**TO APPROVE DRAFT TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME 2005 – 2008** 250

Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Feeney, seconded by Cllr. Mannion, the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2005 – 2008 was approved.

In reply to Cllr. Joyce, Mr. Gilmore said that the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2005 – 2008 was a draft only and would be going on public display.

**TO APPROVE GALWAY LOCAL AUTHORITIES CORPORATE PLAN 2005 – 2009** 251

Draft Corporate Plan 2005 – 2009 was already circulated to each Member.



**Monthly Meeting 20/12/04**

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On the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Mannion, the Galway Local Authorities Draft Corporate Plan 2005 – 2009 was approved.

**CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ROAD TRAFFIC (SPEED LIMITS) COUNTY GALWAY BYE-LAWS 2004** **252**

Report dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Regan, the Road Traffic (Speed Limits) County Galway Bye-Laws 2004 were adopted.

**ADOPTION OF WOODFORD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN** **253**

Report dated 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Hynes, the Woodford Traffic Management Plan was adopted.

**ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY** **254**

Report dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

Cllr. Mullins proposed that Cllr. McDonagh be elected to the Governing Authority of the National University of Ireland, Galway, and this was seconded by Cllr. Healy-Eames and agreed.

Cllr. McDonagh stated that he looked forward to representing the Council on the Governing Authority of N.U.I.G.

**TO APPROVE OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION FOR 6 MONTHS 01/01/05 – 30/06/05** **255**

Report dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, the members approved overdraft accommodation of €10M for the six months period from 1st January, 2005 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2005, subject to sanction of the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

**TO APPROVE COMMUNITY BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS 2004 (3<sup>RD</sup> ROUND)** **256**

Report dated 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh, the Community Based Economic Development Grants 2004 (3<sup>rd</sup> Round) were approved.



**TO NOTE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE'S:**

257

- (a) PROGRAMME OF WORKS
- (b) SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS.

Report dated 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

The Members noted the Programme of Works and Schedule of Meetings of the respective Strategic Policy Committees for the year 2005.

**MANAGERS BUSINESS**

258

**Galway City and County Liaison Committee**

The County Manager said following the Annual Meeting of the newly elected Council in June 2004, the question of the nomination of elected members to the Galway City and County Liaison Committee remained unresolved. The intention of establishing the Committee was to provide a forum for liaison between representatives of the elected members of both the County and City Councils, recognising the major input that elected members have as policy makers in the ongoing coordination of County and City development. Following further discussion between the respective Managers, it was suggested that the members of the Liaison Committee should consist of members of the Corporate Policy Groups of both the County and City Councils. This has been formally agreed by the CPGs of the County Council and City Council and he recommended that the County Council approve it also.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. McDonagh, seconded by Cllr. Healy Eames and agreed to defer this matter to the January meeting of the Council.

**Broadband**

The County Manager said that the Council had received confirmation that the proposals for the rollout of the next phase of the National Broadband have been approved in respect of Athenry, Ballinasloe, Clifden and Na Forbacha.

**RETIREMENT OF MR. TOM KAVANAGH, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES 259**

The Mayor stated that this meeting of the Council was the last meeting to be attended by Mr. Tom Kavanagh, Director of Services, Environment & Water Services Unit.

The Mayor stated that Mr. Kavanagh had worked in the public service for almost 46 years, having spent 37 years with Galway County Council. He stated that Mr. Kavanagh began his career in Clonmel and joined Galway County Council in 1968 and became County Secretary in 1990. He was appointed as Director of Service in 2001 and also was Manager of the Ballinasloe Town Council since then. He stated that Mr. Kavanagh

## Monthly Meeting 20/12/04

had always been available to advise the Members on local government legislation and procedural matters and was an outstanding public servant.

All of the Members present paid tribute to Mr. Kavanagh and references were made to his qualities of tolerance and patience in his dealings with the Members and the fact that he was a man of great knowledge in local government who was always available to give advice and guidance, especially to the respective Chairpersons and Mayors of the County during their terms of office. He was also described as a great friend to many of the Members who had worked with him for many years.

The Mayor then presented Mr. Kavanagh with a gift on behalf of the Members and extended best wishes to him and stated that he would be a great loss to Galway County Council.

The Manager paid tribute to Mr. Kavanagh on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff of Galway County Council and stated that not only was he held in high esteem in Galway County Council but also in many other local authorities in the country. He thanked Mr. Kavanagh for his help and advice since he came to Galway as County Manager and stated that he was a man of great knowledge, wisdom and good humour. He wished him good health to enjoy his retirement and extended best wishes to him and his family in the future.

Mr. Kavanagh thanked the Members for their kind words and for the gift they had presented to him. He stated that he had worked with many County Councillors during his 37 years with Galway County Council and had attended most of the Council Meetings held during that time and had enjoyed many good debates at the Meetings. He stated that the Members had a big part to play in policy making and had an important representational role and that the Electoral Area Committee Meetings and Strategic Policy Committee Meetings were an important part of the local government system. He stated that the highlight of his career was the official opening of Aras an Chontae and the Centenary Celebrations on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Galway County Council in 1999.

He also paid tribute to the Manager and staff of Galway County Council stating that the manner in which they adapted to the multi-purpose nature of Local Government and the changes in legislation was a credit to them.

He paid tribute to former Managers of the Council and wished to remember deceased Members and staff of the Council and those who had retired. He wished the Council all the best in the future stating that he would take many fond memories with him on his retirement.

## CONFERENCES

260

On the proposal of Cllr. Joyce, seconded by Cllr. McDonagh, it was agreed that the attendance of the following members be approved at the Conferences set out hereunder, the cost of each Conference having been circulated to each Member.



**“Antrim Tourism Conference”, Dunadry Hotel & Country Club, Muckamore, Antrim.**

**28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2005**

Cllrs. J. Joyce, M. Regan

**“Mid-West Regional Authority”, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare**

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2005**

Cllr. J. Conneely

**“AMAI – Spring Seminar 2005”, Holiday Inn, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal**

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2005**

Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Hoade, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, Cllr. M. Regan

**“Colmcille Heritage Trust”, Colmcille Heritage Centre, Churchill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal**

**25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2005**

Cllr. M. Regan

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 20 – CLLR. S. CANNEY – WATER**

**261**

The following reply was given: -

“I wish to confirm that the County Council is constructing a water main to service Council houses in Cloonthue and discussions have recently been held with a resident in Cloonascragh with regard to setting up a group water scheme to supply water generally to the Cloonascragh and Cloonthue areas. The proposed scheme would be connecting to the new Council supply in Cloonthue. The Council is awaiting survey sheets from the area to progress the group scheme”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 21 – CLLR. S. CONNAUGHTON – LIGHTS**

**262**

The following reply was given: -

“Galway County Council are currently awaiting on the E.S.B. to provide power for these lights. When power is provided the lights will be commissioned by Galway County Council. We will contact the E.S.B. again requesting them to connect these lights as soon as possible.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 22 – CLLR. S. CONNAUGHTON – ROADS**

**263**

The following reply was given: -



“There are currently no plans to carry out works on this road. Routine maintenance will be carried out, as required.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 23 – CLLR. S. CONNAUGHTON – BRIDGE 264**

The following reply was given: -

“Galway County Council will prepare a design for the bridge at Liss Townland, Newtown on the N63 in 2005 which will be subject to National Roads Authority approval. No preparatory works have been done to date and the proposal could involve realignment of the entire roadway. The project has not been prioritised, as yet, for funding by the National Roads Authority.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – CLLR. M. FAHY – ROADS 265**

The following reply was given: -

“This matter will be investigated and a report will issue in due course.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – CLLR. M. FAHY – ROADS 266**

The following reply was given: -

“The development of the new N18 has been divided into two schemes

N18 Gort to Crusheen	25 km
N18 Oranmore to Gort.	27 km

The Gort Crusheen scheme is being designed as a dual carriageway. The southern end of the scheme will link with the Ennis Bypass, currently under construction. The northern end of the scheme will terminate at a new junction serving Gort, situated just to the north west of the town. Preliminary design of the scheme is progressing well and it is expected that Galway National Roads Design Office will be in a position to publish Environmental Impact Statement for the scheme and to publish CPO in March 2005, subject to NRA approval.

The Oranmore to Gort Scheme is also being designed as a dual carriageway, with three major junctions. At the southern end of the scheme, the road will join the Gort Crusheen scheme at the new Gort junction. A junction will also be provided at Kiltiernan, which will link the existing N18 and proposed N18. The northern end of the scheme will terminate at a new junction situated Close

to Derrydonnell wood in the townland of Rathmorrissy. This junction is being designed to link the new N6 Dublin to Galway route, the new N18 Oranmore to Gort route and the New N17 Tuam to Galway route. Preliminary design of the scheme is progressing well and it is expected that Galway National Roads Design office will be in a position to publish Environmental Impact Statement for the scheme and to publish CPO in Summer 2005, subject to NRA approval.

**Monthly Meeting 20/12/04**

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A plan showing the preferred route for both schemes is located on the Galway County council web site at the following location

<http://www.galway.ie/dfpage.asp?sbpage=0&language=1&tion=8>

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 26 – CLLR. M. FAHY – FLOODING 267**

The following reply was given: -

“The issue to be addressed here is the cleaning of weeds off a small lake and the deepening of the outflow stream. The deepening of the outflow stream is a matter for the Office of Public Works. Galway County Council spends approximately €2,000 per annum cleaning the stream of weeds and blockages. It is considered that cleaning the lake of weeds would make no difference to the flow in the stream. The roadway adjacent to the lake flooded in the past but the road levels were raised and it has not flooded since.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 27 – CLLR. J. MC DONAGH– SIGNS 268**

The following reply was given: -

“I am to advise that the Area Engineer will arrange for the erection of “No Dumping” signs at this area”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – CLLR. J MC DONAGH– ROADS 269**

The following reply was given: -

“This matter has been investigated and a report will be prepared for the next meeting.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 29 – CLLR. J. MC DONAGH–ROADS 270**

The following reply was given: -

“This matter will be investigated and a report will issue in due course.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 30 – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA–ROADS 271**

The following reply was given: -

“I wish to advise that Contract Documents for the Barna Sewerage Scheme Stage 1, are to be completed by the Consultants in January 2005. Stage 1 will provide for a new sewage collection system to service the centre of the village. Sewage will flow by gravity to a new pumping station on the west side of the village from where it will be pumped through the recently completed rising main link with the city. Stage 1 is due to commence in 2005 and will regrettably necessitate further road excavation, particularly on the east side of the cross to lay branch sewers and house connections. It is considered prudent to postpone road surfacing until the sewerage scheme is completed”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 31 – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA – ROADS 272**



**Monthly Meeting 20/12/04**

The following reply was given: -

“Bheadh costas timpeall ar €800,000 ar an bother a leathnú ó Droichead Béal an Daingean go droichead Eanach-Mheáin.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 32 – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA – ROADS 273**

The following reply was given: -

“Bheadh costas thart ar €800,000 ar cosan coisithe a chuir ar fáiló droichead Béal a Daingean go Scoil Náisiúnta an Tuairín”

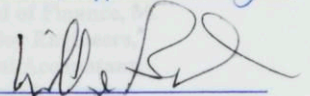
**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 33 – COMH. S. O’TUAIRISG – ROADS 274**

The following reply was given: -

“Tá gá le railí cosanta i cúpla áit ar thaobh an bóthar idir Scrib agus an Teach Dóite. Déanfar tuairisc air agus ansin seolfar iarratas chuig An Roinn Caomhshaoil ag cuardach airgead don scéim.”

**CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINIÚ ANSIN**

*Submitted, Approved & Signed*



24 01 05  
*Date*



**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF STATUTORY BUDGET MEETING OF GALWAY  
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE,  
PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON MONDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
2004.**

**ILATHAIR:**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

Mayor W Burke

**BAILL:**

Cllrs. S. Canney, S. Connaughton, J. Conneely, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, Comh. S. O'Cuaig, Cllrs. J. Cuddy, M. Fahy, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Tuairisg, Cllrs. M. Regan, T. Reilly, J. Tierney, S. Walsh, T. Walsh, T. Welby, B. Willers.

**OIFIGIH:**

Mr. P. Gallagher, County Manager, T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, F. Gilmore, F. Dawson, P. Ridge, Directors Of Services, G. Mullarkey, Head of Finance, M. Ni Chionna, M. Lavelle, Senior Engineers, Michael McGovern, Financial Accountant, C. Wallace, A. Comer, T. Murphy, Senior Executive Officers, J. Brann, Alan Farrell, Administrative Officer, D. Mahon, Community and Enterprise Development Officer, Rose O' Boyle, G. Healy, M. Quinn, Staff Officers, C. Mc Quillan, Assistant Staff Officer, A. O' Regan, Clerical Officer, P. O Neachtain, Irish Officer, Brian Cullen, Technical Support Officer.

**Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.**

**BUDGET 2005**

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The County Manager referred to the draft Budget for the year 2005 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 2004 and proposals for 2005.



## Budget Meeting 20/12/2004

He outlined that all statutory requirements had been complied with and that consultation had taken place with the Corporate Policy Group. The Corporate Policy Group he added had been mindful of the need to adopt the draft Budget with or without amendment and to determine the annual rate on valuation to be levied while at the same time deciding on the competing requests for funding.

He indicated how decisions on the allocation of resources to various expenditure heads of the Draft Budget were taken in the context of the total projected income available for 2005, contractual demands, servicing annual borrowings, supporting SPC's and the relative demands on services particularly with a view to maintaining progress and promoting economic development.

He stated that the allocation from the Local Government Fund had been received and that it represented 27% of the total revenue income available for 2005. He indicated that an allocation of €32,589,234 had been received and that this represented a 10.8% increase over the 2004 baseline. He outlined that the increased allocation was made up of a general increase of 7% on the baseline figure amounting to €2,058,923 and a sum of €1,117,119 from the Needs and Resources Model.

He said that the total County Valuation on which rates were to be levied for 2005 amounted to 239,000 an increase of 10,500 on the 2004 figure and that this represented a 54.7% increase in the commercial base over the last seven years. He pointed out that this increase was a clear indicator of the economic development and progression in the County and that the continuing level of planning permissions suggested an ongoing increase and widening of the valuation base over future years. He added that whilst the income from County Rates was a vitally important income source for the Council that the Council had consistently endeavored to maintain rate increases to the minimum level necessary to maintain and support essential services. He stated however that it was necessary to build on the yield from rates income in order to underpin the investment in economic infrastructure in the county and to match the increased income from Local Government Fund.

He stated that the proposed Rate for 2005 is 60.07 per Unit of Valuation for Galway County and that this represents an increase of 11% on the 2004 rate. He added that this rate would accrue an income of €14,356,730 and that each 1% increase in the rate level amounts to €129,060. He also referred to a report attached showing the relative levels of the 2004 rate for County Galway, compared with other County Councils of similar size and area. He stated that it was worth noting that the rate level in counties of similar topography and area were considerably higher than the Galway rate.

He compared the available income sources for 2005 with 2004 outlining that the total estimated income for 2005 was €121,552,176. He indicated that a number of particular factors and requirements impinged on 2005 expenditure. These include:

- The increase in the range, complexity and extent of services delivered by local government in recent years.
- The requirement (under S.48 of Planning and Development Act, 2000) that money accruing to a local authority from development contributions shall be accounted for in a separate account and shall only be applied as capital for public infrastructure and facilities.
- The costs to local authorities of 2005 pay awards under the Benchmarking process and "Sustaining Progress" and the introduction of the Performance Management Development System.
- Commitments to improving the quality of customer services and communication with the public such as Area Offices and requirements under the Official Languages Act,



#### Budget Meeting 20/12/2004

statutory and non-statutory consultation regarding council policies and programmes and ICT improvements.

- The need to make provision for improved premises and facilities for the Council to conduct its business at Area and Head Quarter level.
- Preparation and implementation of a Social Inclusion Strategy for County Galway local authorities, and of local authority obligations under the Disability Bill 2004.
- Increased overheads such as energy and insurance costs.
- Water pricing policy – National government has determined that costs of water are recovered transparently on the basis of actual use of individual users, and that domestic users of water are not to be charged by local authorities (with Councils, in principle, being recompensed by central government in respect of domestic users). Local government has impressed on the Department the importance of demonstrating clearly in allocations to local authorities that such recompense is being made so that net domestic water service costs do not become an undue burden on local authority budgets over time.

He indicated that the full functionality of the Financial Management System will be used in 2005 to assist in the management of the Councils finances, including budgetary control. He acknowledged the formation of the Finance Committee to receive and consider financial reports on a quarterly basis.

He referred to the three year programme for capital projects for the period 2005-2007 which had been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001. He also referred to a review of Local Government financing that is currently being conducted by the Government and re-iterated that having an adequate financial base is of critical importance. He stated that there needs to be a clear link between spending and raising money locally in order for local government to be fully effective.

He expressed his confidence that the elected members of the Council will continue the positive approach which has been adopted by their predecessors. He stated that the Council is a major contributor to the county economy, employing a workforce of 1400, with revenue expenditure of over €121 million and capital expenditure planned at €135 million for the year ahead.

He sincerely thanked the Members of the Council for their welcome and support since taking up duty as County Manager this year. In particular, he wished to record his appreciation and thanks to the Mayor, Cllr. Willie Burke and his predecessor Tim Rabbite, for their commitment and dedication to the special duties of their office and also for their courtesy and co-operation. He acknowledged the assistance and involvement of the Corporate Policy Group in the Budget process. He thanked the Councils Directors of Service, and all the Council staff for their continued commitment and support. He also thanked Mr. Ger Mullarkey, Head of Finance, Michael McGovern and all the Finance staff for their work in drafting the Budget for 2005. He expressed particular appreciation to his predecessor, Mr. Donal O'Donoghue and to Mr. Ernie Lusby former Head of Finance and wished them health and happiness in their retirement.

The Mayor thanked the Manager for his comprehensive report on the Budget and emphasised the following:

- That the Council propose to spend €250m in the next 12 months.
- The Council is responsible for employing a staff of 1400 and makes a substantial contribution to the local economy.



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- Rates provide a vital component in relation to the Council's Income – they account for 12% of revenue income.
- The need to take account of business concerns whilst maintaining current service levels.

He then proposed a rate increase of 8% and this was seconded by Cllr. Keaveney. The Mayor added that as a result of this proposed rate reduction from 11% to 8% that savings of €387,180 would need to be identified.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins seconded by Cllr. Mc Donagh and agreed that the meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes to give the County Manager an opportunity to see how these savings could be met.

On resumption of the meeting the Manager outlined the amendments required in order to account for savings of €387,180 as follows:

Programme 2.1 – Public Lighting	Reduction of	€22,750
Programme 8.3 – Financial Management	Reduction of	€49,430
Programme 8.11 – Members Expenses	Reduction of	€15,000
Programme 8.12 – Members Conferences	Reduction of	€15,000
Programme 2.19 – Local Road Maintenance	Reduction of	€35,000
Programme 8.8. – Office Accommodation	Reduction of	€250,000
		<hr/>
Total Savings		€387,180.

He stated that this would result in a rate multiplier of 58.45.

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

- Concern was expressed at the inadequate funding base for the Council.
- Concern was expressed at the cost of e-voting.
- Lack of infrastructural projects started in 2004 and it was suggested that a park and ride facility from Claregalway to the City should be investigated with a view to easing traffic congestion.
- Concern was expressed at the level of Water and Sewerage Scheme starts for 2004. It was hoped that additional engineering staff could be recruited to move these schemes ahead.
- Concerns were expressed on the level of the rate increase and its detrimental effect on small businesses in the County and that the widening of the rate base should be investigated.
- It was suggested that in the striking of the rate that the rate payers ability to pay should be factored in.
- Clarification was sought on the level of funding being provided for heating enhancement on local authority houses and how many units it would cater for.
  - Mr. Gilmore, said that notification on the allocation from the DOEHLG re funding had not yet been received. He added that a matching funding contribution of €200,000 was however being provided in the Budget and that this would cater for approximately 220 to 250 units.



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- It was noted that the Council has a staff of 1400 and it was suggested that some of these jobs be moved out to the Area Offices to aid decentralisation.
- Information was sought with regard to the current status of CAMP West.
  - Mr. Kavanagh, said that CAMP West would be fully operational in 2005.
- Clarification was sought as to the exact cost to the Council of Benchmarking for 2005.
  - The County Manager said that a response on this matter would issue shortly.
- Dissatisfaction was expressed on the lack of a Fire Station in the Carraroe area and urgent action was requested on this matter.
- Léiríodh díomá nach raibh linn snámha i gConamara luaite i gcáipéis na meastacháin.
  - Dhearbhaigh an Bainisteoir Contae go raibh comhráití tosaithe le Údarás na Gaeltachta. Luaigh sé freisin gur cheap sé go mbeadh an Comhairle agus an tÚdarás inann staidéar féidearthachta a dhéanamh ar an ábhar sa todhchaí mar thoradh ar na comhráití seo ach nach raibh ach cruinniú amháin tionóla go dtí seo.
- Déanadh moladh gur cheart d'Oileánaigh ar Oileáin Árainn rátaí laghdaithe a íoc de bharr nach raibh na háiseanna céanna acu agus go mbraitheann siad go hiomlán ar thurasóireacht agus gur cheart scrúdú a dhéanamh ar an féidearthacht rátaí d'oileánaigh a chuir ar ceal ar fad.
- It was suggested that the Burial Grounds grant should be increased to €1000.
- The opening of the new swimming pool in Tuam was welcomed.
- It was highlighted that there was an urgent need for the provision of a water tanker for the Fire Station in Gort as the low water pressure was posing a serious fire threat.
- It was outlined that there was an urgent requirement for upgrading the regional office accommodation in Loughrea.
- Clarification was sought on the allocation and spending of Departmental grants and if not spent within the year in question could the monies be carried over to the next year.
  - Mr. Morgan, explained that monies allocated and not spent on a particular road project could be rolled over to the next year.
- Information was sought re: costs associated with Heritage Centres for Galway County Council.
  - Mr. Cullen, said that the total costs incurred by the Council with regard to Heritage Centres was approximately €50,000 per annum.
- Clarification was sought with regard to the revenue figure estimated for Public Water Service Charges.
  - Mr. Kavanagh that the 2004 estimated outturn included income from certain grants and other miscellaneous sources that would not be recurring in 2005.
- Disappointment was expressed at the proposed reduction in Notice of Motion monies and level of attendance at conferences for Councillors in order to balance the budget.
- Dissatisfaction was expressed in the cuts being proposed in Disabled Persons Grants.
- Compliments were expressed at the speedy work that was carried out on the Carnmore Cross.
- Concern was expressed at the reduction in Individual Well Grants.



**AMENDMENT OF DRAFT BUDGET**

236

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney and agreed that the proposed rate increase be reduced from 11% to 8% and that the resultant decrease of €387,180 be accounted for by the reductions as set out above.

**ADOPTION OF BUDGET 2005**

237

It was proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Cllr. Keaveney

“That Galway County Council hereby adopt the draft Budget as amended for the financial year ending 31/12/2005.”

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

**AR SON:** Cllr. W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, P. Hynes, C Keaveney, S. Kyne, J. Mc Donagh, T. Mc Hugh, M. Mullins, Comh. S Ó Cuaig, Cllr. J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers

**IN AGHAIDH:** Cllr. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, J. Joyce, T. Mannion, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, S. Walsh, T. Welby.

**GAN VOTAIL:**

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

**DETERMINATION OF THE ANNUAL RATE ON VALUATION FOR 2005**

238

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins and seconded by Comh O Cuaig

“That Galway County Council hereby determine in accordance with the Budget as adopted for the Financial Year ending 31/12/2005, the Rates as set out in Table B and C as amended to be the Rates on Valuation to be levied for the several purposes as set out in those Tables for the Financial Year Ending 31/12/2005”.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

**AR SON:** Cllr. W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, P. Hynes, C Keaveney, S. Kyne, J. Mc Donagh, T. Mc Hugh, M. Mullins, Comh. S Ó Cuaig, Cllr. J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers

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**IN AGHAIDH:** Cllr. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, J. Joyce, T. Mannion, Comh. C. Ní Fhatharta, S Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, S. Walsh, T. Welby.

**GAN VOTAIL:**

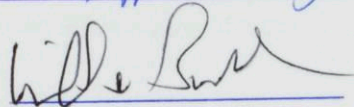
The Mayor declared Cllr. Mullins proposal carried and declared that the Rate on Valuation for the various purposes specified in the Budget for the Financial Year Ending 31/12/2005 had been determined by the Council.

**ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE AND INCOME OUTTURN FOR 2004 239**

On the proposal of Cllr. Mullins seconded by Cllr. Mc Donagh, the Council noted and approved the estimated expenditure and outturn figures for 2004 as set out in the Budget documentation.

**CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved & Signed



24.01.05.  
Date



**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, ON MONDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, 2004.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

Mayor W. Burke

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

Cllrs. S. Canney, C. Cannon, S. Connaughton, J. Conneely, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, Comh. S. O' Cuaig, Cllrs. M. Fahy, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, T. Mannion, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Tuairisg, Cllrs. T. Reilly, S. Walsh, T. Walsh, T. Welby, B. Willers.

**Oifigigh:**

Mr. P. Gallagher, County Manager, Messrs. T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, F. Dawson, F. Gilmore, P. Ridge, Directors of Service; T. Murphy, County Secretary; A. Comer, D. Barrett, Senior Executive Officers; M. Lavelle, Senior Engineer; P. Carroll, Administrative Officer, G. Healy, Staff Officer T. Donoghue, Asst. Staff Officer.

**Thosaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir**

**GALWAY COUNTY ELECTORAL AREA PROGRAMME OF ACTIONS 233**

Draft Report dated 2004 was already circulated to each Member.

Mr. Dawson stated that the Galway County Electoral Area Programme of Actions - Draft Report was prepared at the request of the Members in order to reflect the various activities of the Council over all areas of the county. He stated that the document outlined the proposed actions to be undertaken by each department of the Council which would support a balanced development of the whole county. He also stated that the actions contained in the document represented the commitments entered into by the Council in May 2004 and that the document would be updated annually and presented to the Council so that progress on the actions could be monitored and future commitments added.

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Cllr. Joyce congratulated Mr. Dawson and his team on the preparation of the document. However, he stated that the document contained some commitments in relation to water and sewerage schemes which had been included in previous work programmes but which had not been commenced. He said it would be advisable to set a schedule and keep to it and if funding was not forthcoming from the Department of the Environment & Local Government, they should be made aware of resulting delays.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that this document would not be forwarded to the DOEHLG as the Water Services Assessment of Needs was already sent to the Department.

Cllr. Fahy stated that he was concerned that eventhough €1m had been allocated to provide the piping necessary to bring water from Lough Cutra to Gort town, the work could not commence until agreement was reached between the Council and the landowners and he asked that every effort be made to reach agreement as soon as possible.

In reply to Cllr. Cannon, Mr. Dawson said that the report outlines the Council's commitments and includes a process whereby those commitments could be measured.

Cllr. T. Walsh referred to the lack of adequate sewerage facilities in villages in north Galway and he emphasized the urgency of having those facilities provided.

Chuir an Comh. Ó Tuairisg béim ar an dtábhacht go mbeadh An Spidéal san áireamh sa gClár Infheistíochta Seirbhísí Uisce.

Cllr. Mannion said that development of Ardaun would be at the expense of investment in the east of the county.

Cllr. S. Walsh also expressed frustration at the lack of progress on the provision of water and sewerage schemes.

Chuir Comh. Ni Fhatharta failte roimh an tuairisg agus chuir si beim ar thabhacht plean ceanntar aitiuil a dheanamh don Cheathru Rua.

Cllr. Connolly stated that the provision of water and sewerage facilities was the most important area for investment by the Council, as villages and towns needed these services to grow and develop. He stated that procedure was stifling progress and he asked that the Manager try to change procedure in order to fast-track the provision of water and sewerage schemes.

The Manager acknowledged the Members statements regarding the importance of the water services investment programme and he stated that the Council had recruited extra staff in the Water Services Department in order to progress schemes. He also stated that the Council would continue to emphasise to the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government the need to fund the schemes applied for in the Assessment of Needs.



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Cllr. Canney stated that he looked forward to seeing a review of the document in mid 2005 in order that progress can be monitored.

Cllr. Mullins said that as the city expands and AIS such as Ardaun are developed, the Council must ensure that the east of the County doesn't suffer to the extent that it will not affect investment. He welcomed the proposed upgrading of Ballinasloe Library in 2005.

Luaigh an Comh. O Cuaig freisin an fhiric go raibh an chuid is mó den infheistíocht á dhéanamh sa gceantar i ngar don chathair. Thagair sé don mhoill i soláthar áiseanna uisce agus séarachais i gConamara, Scéim Séarachais Charna ach go háirithe.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Mullins the members endorsed the Galway County Electoral Area Programme of Actions 2004.

Cllr. Mullins stated that the Council was committed to expanding settlement centres but departmental funding was required so that areas such as Ballinasloe could expand. He welcomed the proposed upgrading of Ballinasloe Library in 2005.

Cllr. T. Walsh stated that areas on the border of the county sometimes felt forgotten about, such as Creggs and Ballymoe where development was being curtailed because of the lack of sewerage facilities.

Cllr. Feeney stated that the document was a great asset in that it concentrated the mind on the activities of the Council and could be a benchmark for future development. He suggested that the Council should hold a dedicated meeting annually in order to discuss the review document.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, the Members endorsed the Galway County Electoral Area Programme of Actions 2004

#### **PLANNING**

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Mr. Ridge introduced two reports that he had prepared and summarised these for the members. The reports are entitled

- 1) Critical Evaluation of the Rural Planning Policies and Objectives of the 2003-2009 County Development Plan and
- 2) Draft Pre-planning information report to assist applicants to submit a successful application complying with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development and the provisions of the Development Plan 2003-2009.

Mr Ridge introduced the first document as an initiation of the process for the preparation of the Manager's report, which must be prepared under Section 15 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. This formal report must be submitted to the members before May 2005 and one of its principal purposes is to review the progress made in securing the objectives of the development plan. He made the following points in his presentation.

- 1) Over 6,000 applications for one-off houses have been granted over the last 3 years (2004-2392; 2003 – 2298 and 2002 – 1658). A further 2,700 were permitted in schemes of more than one house. Population growth is less than 2,000 persons per annum, which indicates that no more than 1,000 houses is required to meet population growth. These figures, which are a cause for concern, were derived from a comparison of the data in the Geo-Directory, our own planning databases and the number of Commencement Notices submitted.
- 2) The National Spatial Strategy suggests two types of response to meeting the needs of persons seeking rural housing.
  - a. The first response is to implement settlement policies, for areas with declining population, in conjunction with policies that deal with areas in which there are overspill issues because of proximity to urban areas.
  - b. The second response suggested is enhanced accessibility that must be linked with integrated settlement policy to revitalise rural communities.
- 3) A strong and attractive town or village brings economic and social benefit to its rural hinterland and a strong and vibrant rural community sustains the towns and villages. A planning authority needs to determine what makes a town or village attractive, in consultation with the local members and community. Having determined what is needed and valued by the local community then it should set about providing it in a select number of locations preferably one per electoral area to start with. The selection of these areas should be the subject of process similar to that used for selecting the Urban and Village renewal projects. An important element in this process would be the provision of affordable housing and recreational amenities.
- 4) The capacity and ability of an area to absorb development needs to be analysed in a more detailed manner than heretofore, with a view to making the best use of available capacity for the housing needs of the rural community. Unless this is done future generations of rural dwellers will not be able to remain in their local areas.
- 5) In evaluating the rural housing provisions of the Development Plan against the Draft Guidelines, reference was made to the need to adopt a more analytical, factually based approach to rural development policy. The Guidelines also imply that more emphasis should be placed on the capacity of areas to support sustainable development. It is in these two areas that the Galway County Development Plan is weak and in need of further research and development.
- 6) In evaluating the rural housing policies against the aims of the County Development Plan it was pointed out that
  - a. The application of the rural housing policy, in the County Development Plan is, in practice allowing over three times more houses yearly than is required to sustain the population increase for County Galway and that this was not sustainable.
  - b. The realisation of the potential of the Oranmore-Athenry economic corridor requires a strong pro-active approach towards proper planning and sustainable development in order to secure the economic future of the county and the region.



- c. In theory, the idea is to strengthen towns and villages and make them attractive options for people. In practice, these settlements, along with connecting public transport networks have yet to develop. Additionally, rural farm enterprises could be developed further and provide local employment for people thus sustaining rural communities.
- d. The rural housing policies restrict development to those with an essential housing need and/or competence in the Irish language. Areas of the Gaeltacht are declining in population and need rejuvenation. However this must be done properly or it may have a negative impact on the language and culture.
- e. Affordable housing, as envisaged by the housing strategy has not been delivered. Why this is so must be determined. It appears that the creation of the settlement centres has raised false expectations regarding the value of the lands and that these lands are not coming to the market at an affordable price. The expected emergence of housing co-operatives has not yet taken place. It will require that diversion of resources to this area to ensure that these aims are realised.
- f. The recognition and protection of the economic corridor to the east of the city and the importance of the Ardaun corridor to the full development of this area must be fully reflected in out policies. Ardaun was conceived as an important planning provision prior to the emergence of the Oranmore-Athenry corridor, its increased importance now is not adequately reflected in the development plan and this will have to be addressed by way of future amendment.

The impact of the policies of the new plan was subjected to preliminary analysis and the following table, which shows that they are having the desired effect, was produced.

Year	15 km zone outside Galway City	Greater than 15 km and less than 30 km outside Galway City	The rest of the county
2000	238	718	1007
2001	286	873	633
2002	284	915	556
2003	378	1213	748
2004	264	964	1187
Totals	1450	4683	4131

The following conclusions were reached.

- 1) In assessing the pattern of development within the county one is immediately struck by the distorted nature of development. Almost without exception development is being sucked in towards the city. It is essential that general policies are developed to counteract this whilst at the same time ensuring that rural housing policies are not permitted to hinder the growth and development of rural areas, either by preventing appropriate rural housing or letting inappropriate rural housing impede the provision of economic infrastructure and erode the



natural assets of the county. The policies in place are achieving this but the degree of success is limited; we are only holding our own.

- 2) In considering rural housing policies, it is essential that the planning authority contributes positively towards achieving community solidarity by facilitating people in moving to rural communities and areas of declining population. It is essential that we take a leadership role in assisting communities in revealing a viable solution. The further development of the settlement strategy is necessary; in particular assessment of the contribution that the smaller, peripheral settlement centers can make. The development of a more pro-active stance is needed in this area. Proposals should be developed in the SPC for consideration by the members.
- 3) At the next settlement level, the county development plan places emphasis on the need to strengthen and make more attractive rural towns and villages and in so doing enable these centers to support their rural hinterland and countryside.
- 4) This requires that available resources are focused and concentrated to ensure that results are achieved.
- 5) We need to move towards a better understanding of concerns being raised by politicians, interested groups, applicants and planners. As part of this understanding there is a need to adopt a more analytical, factually based approach to rural development policy. More emphasis needs to be placed on the capacity of areas to support sustainable development and role that the planning authority can play in achieving this objective.

Cllr. Fahy asked if the Consultant's report had been finalised with regard to the Landscape Classification in the Kinvara general area and he was advised that the report was to be submitted to the Planning SPC.

Cllr. Canney stated that some settlement centres contained land that was not suitable for housing and that the size of centres needed to be looked at individually rather than globally. He stated that more interaction was needed between planners and agents and requested that the Tuam planners have clinics in Tuam.

Cllr. Welby stated that the definition of a local area was causing a problem as it was not stated in the Co. Development Plan but was stated in the Draft Rural Housing Guidelines as a location within 1.6km of the family home. Cllr. Welby proposed that the 1.6km be extended to 8km and that a person who spends 10 years in an area will be recognised as a local Cllr. Mannion seconded this proposal. Discussion on this was postponed.

Cllr. Healy Eames questioned the integration of communities into settlement centres and stated that social problems can arise from people being pushed into small areas and stated that she would like to see a holistic approach taken to planning.

Cllr. Connolly stated that settlement centres are a new concept and the only way of reducing one off rural housing. He stated that there are developers prepared to provide the services but the council doesn't seem to be able to facilitate them. He added that nobody will buy land unless they get an indication as to whether they will get planning



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permission and that a change in attitude is required in order to build up critical mass. Considerations such as the western rail corridor should also be taken into account.

Cllr. Mannion stated that he was disappointed that the council members had only received the Manager's Report today. He stated that some land in settlement centres was not suitable for development or would not be sold for development and that only a fraction of the land will be for development. He stated that he did not agree with pushing people into the Ardaun corridor and that it was only going to cause social problems. He stated that people living in the countryside have a good quality of life with their extended family members living nearby. He stated that a genuine person who needs a house is paying the price for speculators. He stated that the definition of a traditional house was causing problems and that people should be allowed freedom to put in bay windows. He stated that Milltown should be allowed to develop in order to support the western rail corridor. He stated that planners could only be contacted one day per week and that there were inconsistencies in planning decisions.

Cllr. Joyce stated that property owners in settlement centres won't sell their land due to its value and that settlement centres were not going to work unless all the services were put in place before hand and which would provide a good quality of life unlike living in housing estates. He stated that the Co. Development Plan was very restrictive with regard to granting large agricultural buildings and would like to see this changed.

Cllr. O'Cuaig stated that Kerry County Council have changed their views on SACs and he detected a change in attitude regarding the settlement centre concept. Cllr. Cuaig asked when the Council would have their Design Guidelines for Rural Housing prepared. Cllr. Cuaig stated that Kilkerrin Settlement Centre had commonage on one side; the sea on the other and its existing industry was located outside the circle. He asked when these settlement centres could be reviewed.

Cllr. Regan stated that they were promised two years ago that planners would meet applicants on site and asked when this would happen. He stated that any type of house can be permitted inside the 15km but outside that radius a different type of house is permitted. He stated that the Council should put money into settlement centres and that farmers don't want to sell their land. He stated that the county needs a broader Development Plan and that it does not cover the problems of different areas. He said that the definition of a local should be on the basis of a parish and adjoining parish. Cllr. Regan stated that no Enurement Clause should be applied to permissions outside the 15km of the city.

Cllr. Fahy stated that the Members did not get the plan that they had agreed. He stated that landowners should be allowed to sell a site or maybe two sites to educate their family or pay for nursing homes.

Cllr. S. Walsh stated that planners had problems with L shaped bungalows and vertical emphasis windows and that domestic effluent problems was no reason to refuse a permission. He stated that these problems have to be addressed and requested that when



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the House Design Guidelines are being prepared that councillors should be involved in the process. He stated that Area Action Plans should be done for Spiddal, Moycullen, Barna .etc

He stated that people should be allowed to convert their outhouses to holiday homes for the summer as big developers were allowed to build holiday homes on less than ½ acre sites.

Cllr. McDonagh asked whether Members will have an input into the review of the Development Plan in May and could changes then be made to it. He asked when a planner would be assigned to the Lackagh office.

Cllr. Cannon asked that the term 'local' be defined as it was not specified in the Co. Development Plan even though 1.6 km was being used as a yardstick. Cllr. Cannon supported Cllr. Welby's proposal to extend the definition of local from 1.6 km to 8 km.

Cllr. Connaughton stated that she found the Tuam planners very helpful but stated that it was hard to get through to the Planning Department by telephone. Cllr. Connaughton stated that the definition of 'local' needed to be addressed .

Cllr. Hynes stated that people were being refused permission in Loughrea due to urban fringe development. He stated that he did not recall this term in the Co. Development Plan and stated that it was unfair to applicants who are from the area. He stated that the term 'local' was a contentious issue and had to be got rid of.

Cllr. Keaveney stated that he believed that the Planning Department was under resourced and that it was unclear as to what day planners take telephone calls. He stated that it was unlikely that planners would be able to meet applicants on site. He stated that capital money needed to be spent in north Galway to provide the infrastructure to allow places like Milltown to develop.

Cllr. D. Connolly referred to Aim No. 5 of the County Development Plan which states "to consolidate the Gaeltacht and support its importance to the Irish language locally and nationally whilst protecting its importance as a cultural reservoir" and he asked what did the council envisage might be the legal constraints in implementing this. With regard to Aim No. 7 of the Plan, which states "to recognise Galway City as a location with the potential to attract investment both to the city and to the county with mutually beneficial consequences if managed and planned properly", he stated that Galway City was a bottleneck and it would be beneficial to enrich areas further to the east of the county. He made a proposal that there would be a separate section in the Planning Department to deal with agricultural issues. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Hynes.

Cllr. Kyne questioned the reasoning behind the restricted development with the 15km zone and asked if it was linked to cost of acquiring land by the NRA for the construction of new national roads.



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Cllr. Kyne said that the rules for crèches should be changed so that people can have crèches outside settlement centres and thus enable couples to use local services.

Cllr. Feeney stated that he could not see the reasoning behind zoning Ardaun for residential use. He stated that a lot of money will be channelled into it depriving the rest of the county. He stated that he was in support of industry locating in Oranmore and Athenry but that people would be able to travel from Ballinasloe and Loughrea on an improved road networks.

Cllr. Willers stated that it was pointless to have settlement centres unless there is infrastructure in place. She stated that the condition of Loughrea Regional Office was a disgrace and it wasn't right that planners or members of the public had to conduct business in such bad conditions. Cllr. Willers commented on development contributions and stated that it hard to justify paying them when no service is in place. She also stated that housing need forms were open to abuse and that the planner had to take the word of the applicant.

Cllr. Reilly stated that Tuam was a hub town with huge development taking place and asked why the Council were not ensuring that youth facilities were put in place by public private partnership. He stated that settlement centres were a wonderful idea but that farmers were not willing to sell their land. He requested that the Tuam planners be in Tuam one or two days a week.

Cllr. Mullins stated that settlement centres haven't worked and that every effort should be made to make it possible for young people to get planning permission in the countryside. He looked forward to when jobs would be created in the east of the county and hoped that people would move to the east of the county and work there. He stated that Enurement Clauses need to be reviewed and were unfair in some instances. He asked for clarification on the term 'local' and if some of these issues were addressed it would make life easy for everyone.

The Mayor thanked all the councillors for their comments and hoped these issues would be taken on board and addressed.

The Manager stated it was important to have these sessions and get feedback from our customers. He appreciated the comments made in trying to see how to address planning matters and he would be available for any special meetings that would take place. The Manager stated that it had not been possible to have the report ready earlier due to the time constraints in preparing the Tuam and Claregalway Plan. He stated that the process of preparing a manager's progress report on the Co. Development Plan next May will be dealt with at SPC level and will come back before the full council for their consideration.

He stated that the Planning Department deals with three areas, Development Control, Forward Planning and Enforcement and these will be the areas that the Planning Department will be judged on with regard to service indicators. He stated that the



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Planning Department was one of the busiest in the country and that there were limited resources and a constraint on recruitment.

The Manager stated that when SPCs are established that a lot of cross cutting issues will be discussed and policies made at SPC level and then referred to the CPG.

Mr. Ridge thanked the members for their comments and then summarised the second report which deals with the process of preplanning reports to assist applicants to submit a successful application and stated that in January 2005 he proposed to make the preplanning report service available to the public.

He referred to the difficulty in meeting with planners and pointed out that the Planning Authority will at year end have provided in excess of 2,700 pre-planning meetings. Resource constraints mean that this number cannot be increased further so every effort will have to be made to reduce the number of meetings. This can be done by tackling three areas. First, by putting in place pre application information system we can inform applicants what constraints apply to their site and they can then at their own discretion decide whether or not they meet this criteria and proceed with an application. If they decide to proceed the information included in the pre-planning report will enable the pre-planning meetings to be conducted more efficiently. Secondly, block booking of appointments will no longer be accepted. Persons seeking a pre-planning meeting will be asked to quote their pre-planning report reference number and this is all that will be discussed at the meeting. Queries on further information requests will be dealt with outside the formal appointments system. He stated that there was a need to reduce the number of requests for further information, currently running at 30%. Many of the issues the subject of an FI request were standard items that should have been included with an application in the first place. The preplanning report will contain a checklist outlining the statutory requirements and non statutory requirements (such as sight lines) that an application should contain. A seminar for agents will be held early in the new year and they will encouraged to take these requirements into account. It was not our intention to revert to refusing applications when basic information was not included but it should be realised that when refusals were issued that the quality of application improved dramatically. Thirdly, the automatic granting of extensions of time to applicants will no longer happen. At present 10% of all applications are placed on extension of time. Apart from the additional administrative burden that this imposes there is a question mark over the legality of the manner in which these are granted. We are at the stage where agents are asking for a file to be extended and in order to be consistent we are obliged to grant the extension. Mr. Ridge stated that, in future that the Planning Department will not grant extensions of time at the request of agents or applicants. He stated that there are cases where it is advantageous for extension of time where not enough information has been submitted and in these cases the Planning Department will request the extension of time. Once this system, which is legally required, is in place there will be more time to deal with preplanning meetings. Whereas the Planning Department is not in a position to guarantee how long it will take to get a preplanning meeting; the aim will be 4 weeks. The proposed changes to our current system will ensure that preplanning is more effective.



Mr. Ridge summarised his proposals to improve the planning process

- 1 Pre planning information pack to be used before meeting a planner, following with an appointment within 4 weeks.
- 2 Eliminate Extension of times as these should be driven by the Planning Authority rather than the agent.
- 3 Further information requests will not be dealt with at scheduled appointments.

Regarding phone calls, Mr. Ridge stated that the Planning Department takes 50% of all calls coming into the council and it is impossible to answer phones instantly and that patience is required.

Mr. Ridge stated that planners would not be moving to area offices until the IT connections improve as they are not fast enough to enable the planners to use the technology which is now such an essential part of the planning process. He stated that the council are inviting tenders from contractors to provide a special high speed link between head quarters and area offices.

He welcomed the open debate on settlement centres. It was apparent that were divergent views on how these should develop, at one extreme developers should be encouraged to build a large number of houses in a centre and fund the necessary infrastructure as part of the process other members favoured a more cautious approach and that development should only follow infrastructure provision. He considered that a balance needed to be arrived somewhere between these extremes and that each centre might require its own unique solution. This solution might be arrived at by going to each electoral area and debating the whole concept of settlement centres. He would incorporate this in the Progress Report when the Development Plan is reviewed in May.

Mr. Ridge stated that he was happy to remove the 1.6km from the guidelines as regards the definition of a local. He stated that people can prove they are local.

He stated that the Planning Department were producing house type guidelines which would be available in January 2005 and he was open to suggestions on these guidelines.

He stated that the planners would not be able to meet with applicants on site and would be a while before that could happen.

Mr. Ridge stated that Enurement Clauses were controlling high pressure areas by pushing applicants to outside the 15km and was creating development in places with low levels of development and taking pressure away from within the 15km.



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Cllr. Welby stated that he would like a definition for a local person. Cllr. Cannon stated that the definition was open to interpretation and open to the planner. He stated that it needed to be defined to remove the uncertainty.

Cllr. T. Walsh stated that there are 3 or 4 commercial developments that are not deemed suitable to his area but they are important and he asked that discretion be taken to ensure that certain development takes place and is permitted even though it they are located outside settlement centres.

Cllr. Mannion asked that the term local be defined. He also questioned the capacity of septic tanks and asked how many extra rooms would a septic tank accommodate.

The Mayor stated that SPC meetings could be used to address issues such as this.

Cllr. McHugh said that the term local be left undefined and wait a couple of months to see how it works.

Mr. Ridge stated that at previous meetings he had attempted to define what local is, for example, it can be based where you work, where you were born, where you socialise and how far away these opportunities are from where you wish to locate.

Mr. Ridge stated that he did not wish to go back to the situation where we were 12 months ago. He stated that 8km cannot be accepted because it will contradict the principles of proper planning and sustainable development.

Cllr. Healy Eames stated that she was agreeing with Paul Ridge's proposal to place no limit on distance, remove the limit of 1.6km and review it after a number of months.

Cllr. Healy Eames proposed that the term local be left undefined until May 2005 to see if it is working. This was seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh.

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

**AR SON:** Cllrs. W. Burke, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, P. Hynes, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. S. O'Cuaig, Cllrs. T. Walsh, B. Willers (13)

**IN AGHAIDH:** Cllrs. S. Canney, C. Cannon, M. Connolly, J. Joyce, T. Mannion, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, Cllrs. T. Reilly, T. Welby (8)

**GAN VOTÁIL:** (0)

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

**CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIÚ ANSIN**

*Submitted, Approved & Signed*

*W. Burke*

*20.12.04*  
*Date*



**CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2004.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

**Mayor W Burke**

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

**Cllrs. S. Canney, C. Cannon, S. Connaughton,  
J. Conneely, D. Connolly, M. Connolly,  
Comh. S. O’Cuaig, Cllrs. J. Cuddy, M. Fahy,  
P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, M. Hoade, P.  
Hynes, J. Joyce, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, T.  
Mannion, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M.  
Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S.  
O’Tuairisg, Cllrs. M. Regan, T. Reilly, J.  
Tierney, S. Walsh, T. Walsh, T. Welby, B.  
Willers.**

**Oifigigh:**

**Mr. Pat Gallagher, County Manager,  
Messrs. T. Kavanagh, P. Ridge,  
J. Cullen, J. Morgan, F. Dawson,  
F. Gilmore, Director of Services,  
Mr. Ger Mullarkey, Head of  
Finance, T. Murphy, D. Barrett,  
A. Comer, Senior Executive Officers,  
L.Kavanagh, M. Lavelle, M. Timmins,  
Senior Engineers, M. Matthews,  
Administrative Officer, M. McGrath, Senior  
Staff Officer, M. Barnicle, Staff Officer and  
Theresa Donohue, Assistant Staff Officer**

**Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.**

The meeting commenced with a presentation by the Mayor of a Silver Medal and a Certificate of Bravery to Mr. Eugene Houlihan, Tarrea, Ballindeereen, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway in recognition of his efforts in 2000 to save a family trapped in a submerged car at Tarrea Pier, Kilcolgan. Mr. Houlihan was one of only 42 recipients of the prestigious award by Comhairle na Mire Gaile since its inception in 1947.

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

**189**

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the family of former Member of Galway County Council, Mr. Peter Raftery who passed away. Mr. Raftery, served on the Council from 1967

**Monthly Meeting 22/11/2004**

to 1979 and again from 1985 to 1991, tributes were paid by the members and staff on the loyal and dedicated service given by the former Fianna Fail Councillor.

As a mark of respect the meeting was adjourned for ten minutes.

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:-

- Ms. Máire Uí Chonaire, Cill Bhriocáin, Ros Muc, Conamara.
- Mr. Dan Dowd Jnr., St. Teresa's Park, Ballinalsoe, Co. Galway.
- Mr. Tommy Hynes, Aughrim, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
- Dr. Michael Mc Gloin, Castlepark, Kiltullagh, Athenry, Co. Galway.

**MINUTES**

190

The minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2004 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Comh. Ní Fhatharta.

**REPORTS**

191

The report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2004 was considered.

Cllr. Mannion suggested deferring the adoption of the minutes of this meeting pending the resolution of new access procedures for the Planning Department. In reply, the Manager stated that no decision was taken on the matter at the meeting; further discussion and consultation would occur with members before the implementation of any new procedure.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Walsh seconded by Cllr. Mc Donagh and agreed to adopt the minutes of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2004.

The report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. T Walsh.

The report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Conneely, seconded by Comh. O' Tuairisg.

The report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. O' Tuairisg, seconded by Cllr. Welby.

The report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. McHugh seconded by Cllr. Reilly.

The report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Canney seconded by Cllr. McHugh.



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Arising from the minutes of this meeting Cllr. T Walsh proposed that the provision of public lighting in Ballymoe be expedited and this was supported by Cllr. Reilly.

The report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2004 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 OF ROADS ACT 1993** 192

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. Canney, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

**Extension of Local Road LT22341 498m from its junction with the LP2234 in the townland of Ironpool and extending north east for a distance of 180 metres in the townland of Ironpool – Tuam Electoral Area.**

On the proposal of Cllr. Hynes and seconded by Cllr. Regan, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:-

**Road commencing at junction with County Road (lay-by off N67) in the townland of Ballybranagan and extending north for a distance of 113 metres in the townland of Ballybranagan – Loughrea Electoral Area.**

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.043HA AT PORTUMNA, CO. GALWAY TO MR. JIMMY HOGAN** 193

Report dated the 1<sup>st</sup> November was already circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Burke, it was agreed to dispose of the site to Mr. Jimmy Hogan as outlined in the report.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF 8 NO. APARTMENTS AT SUN STREET, TUAM, CO. GALWAY** 194

Report dated the 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney, the proposed construction of 8 no. apartments at Sun Street, Tuam, Co. Galway was approved.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF 10 NO. HOUSES AT ABBEY, CO. GALWAY** 195

Report dated the 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Willers, seconded by Cllr. Regan, the proposed construction of 10 no. houses at Abbey, Co. Galway was approved.

Arising from the report Cllr. Regan asked if the original proposed development of 30 no. houses was no longer being considered, he also sought information on the likely uptake for the proposed houses and the type of Water scheme being considered.

In reply, Mr. Gilmore, stated that all the land was purchased for housing, and that further development would be considered subject to proper Planning and Development. He said that there is a waiting list for the houses which would be a mix of social and affordable houses and that the water supply would be provided by the Council.

**TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE RURAL HOUSE WITH SERVICES AT BALLYLARA, ARDRAHAN, CO. GALWAY**

196

Report dated the 1st November, 2004 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Willers, the proposed construction of a single rural house as outlined in the report was approved.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE MANAGER'S REPORT UNDER SECTION 20(3) (D) OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 ON THE SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT TUAM LOCAL AREA PLAN.**

197

A Report on the above matter was already circulated to members.

Mr. Ridge stated Mr. Kavanagh would go through the Managers Report which contained the submissions received on the Draft Plan. Mr. Kavanagh stated that the Draft Tuam Local Area Plan went on public display from 29<sup>th</sup> July 2004 to 10 September 2004 and during this period a total of 75 submissions were received. The Planning Act 2000 allowed council officials six weeks to prepare the Manager's Report to put before the members for consideration. The members then have six weeks to consider the submissions and the Managers Report and the recommendations in it. Members may amend the plan, if they wish but in so doing they are restricted to considering the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. If material amendments are made to the Draft Plan the amended draft must be put on public display for a further four weeks and submissions sought on the changes to the Draft Plan. Submissions may not be accepted on any other elements in the plan and members may not make further new submissions.



**SUBMISSION D 1**

**Submitted by:**  
**T.J. Hyland & Co.**  
**Steamship House**  
**Dock Street**  
**Galway**

**Issue:** Request to re-zone land from Agricultural to Residential.

**Location:** The lands are located on the Killaloony Road 500 metres from it's junction with the N17.

**Summary:** Three members of the Hyland Family own 1.5 acres fronting the road – in effect three ½ acre sites. The sites are infill between a line of detached houses and can be connected to water and sewerage services. The land on the opposite side of the road is zoned residential.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to re-zone land from agricultural to residential.

**SUBMISSION D 2**

**Submitted by:  
Ann Brady, T.C.  
Tuam Town Council**

**Issue:** Road through Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objecting to proposed road because it would ruin the amenity value of the Town Park and also the residential amenity of Curragh Park where she lives.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.



**SUBMISSION D 3**

**Submitted by:**  
**Philip Brady**  
**14 Curragh Park**

**Issue:** Road through Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to proposed road because people of Tuam do not want it, also, its continuation would make the area unsafe for residents of Curragh Park and Park View Drive.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 4**

Submitted by:  
**Michael & Emer Donnellan**  
**Drum**  
**Tuam**

**Issue:** Request to rezone land from proposed agricultural to residential.

**Location:** The 0.622 Hectares is located on the Drum Road 500 metres from its junction with the Bermingham Road.

**Summary:** Applicants reside beside the 0.622 hectares and wish to have this land zoned residential.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone land from proposed agricultural to residential.



**SUBMISSION D 5**

**Submitted by:**  
**Patsy Moggan**  
**15 Gold Cave Crescent**  
**Bishop St.**

**Issue:** Road through Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Regards the proposal as a disgrace and objects to it.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 6**

Submitted by:  
**Maitias Ó Gormhaile**  
**Hon. Sec. Palace Grounds Committee**  
**The Demesne**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects on behalf of his committee to the proposal as it would create an unhealthy environment in the park and disturb its serenity. The Bobby Burke road is adequate to divert traffic to all routes.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks. All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.



**SUBMISSION D 7**

**Submitted by:**  
**Patrick & Winnifred O'Donnell**  
**3 Curragh Park**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Object to the proposal as it would ruin the peace and tranquility of the Park which is used by the young and not so young.  
The continuation of the road would also be detrimental to the residential amenity of Curragh Park.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 8**

**Submitted by:**  
**Rory Waters**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds

**Summary:** Objects, as a user for many years, to proposal as it would destroy the peace and serenity of the park which has been a therapeutic location for people over the years.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.



**SUBMISSION D 9**

Submitted by:  
**Francie O' Donnell**  
**5 Gold Cave Terrace**  
**Bishop St.**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as it would ruin the peace and quite of the Park.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 10**

**Submitted by:**  
**Thomas, Christopher**  
**& Kitty Hyland**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Request to re-zone land from agricultural to residential.

**Location:** Located on Killaloonty Road 500 metres from its junction with the N17

**Summary:** The Hyland Family members wish to have the balance of the family lands zoned for residential purposes. The site is in an area of extensive one-off Developments where water and sewerage services are available, and the proposal to allow such development has been endorsed by councillors from the Tuam electoral area.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone land from agricultural to residential.



**SUBMISSION D 11**

**Submitted by:**  
**Bernard Coen**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Request to re-zone land from Agricultural to Residential.

**Summary:** The discussion on the pre-draft submissions by the Tuam electoral area Councillors agreed that in-fill sites in the agricultural zones of the towns peripheral roads be zoned residential. This is a typical site in this category. It obtained planning permission in 1997 but the permission lapsed and a subsequent application was refused.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. McHugh it was agreed to rezone land from agricultural to residential.

**SUBMISSION D 12**

**Submitted by:**  
**John Stapleton**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Zone lands on the N17 road on the outskirts of Tuam Town for industrial/commercial purposes.

**Summary:** This proposal was discussed by the Tuam Electoral Area Councillors at Pre-draft stage. It was decided to hold a decision for a future meeting pending a meeting with the N.R.A. This submission will enable the matter to once more come before the Council

**Response:** The lands in question are on the N 17 outside the Draft Plan Boundary and a substantial distance outside the Town speed limits. While the final design decisions have not been taken on the By-pass route it is likely to be on the Town side of the lands in question.  
National Policy on development alongside National Primary routes is well established and opposes developments other than those essential for such a location outside the speed limits of towns and villages.  
In the case of Tuam there are adequate lands zoned for Industrial/Commercial purposes within the town boundary.

**Recommendation:** No alteration to Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Ridge presented the map to the Councillors showing the revised route for the Tuam By-Pass. The Councillors were critical of late receipt of the map, the fact that it could not be confirmed as an official route and they objected to the fact that the route cut across the Kilcloghans Road twice. In order to join up with the existing N17 it cut through the lands which are the subject matter of submissions no. 12 and 60. The councilors stated that the NRA had given them no chance to comment on the revised route in the context of the Local Area Plan.

Mr. Morgan outlined the general design and consultation process and the NRA's obligation to adhere to their budget. If constraints were put in the way, it could jeopardise the immediate prospects of implementing the By Pass. The councilors voiced their opposition to the most recent proposal from the NRA and voiced the need for an early solution to Tuam traffic problems. The Co. Manager and Mr. Ridge advised the councilors not to zone submission 12 and 60.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to accept the official's recommendation and not to zone submission 12. It was further agreed that this issue would be revisited once the CPO for Tuam By Pass was confirmed.



**SUBMISSION D 13**

**Submitted by:**  
**Cyril Kelly**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Zone this site at Drum, Tuam, for Residential use.

**Summary:** The Tuam electoral area Councillors agreed at pre-draft stage to re-zone minor road frontages which had agricultural zoning to residential zoning. The adjacent lands are zoned residential in the draft plan. Planning Permission was refused on this site to a relative of the landowner.

**Response:** As advised previously it is neither proper nor sustainable planning to allow untrammelled residential sprawl along the rural roads surrounding Tuam. Such development changes the character of Tuam and its rural environs, congests roads, reduces habitat and clashes with agricultural activities.

If the plan boundary extension is confirmed the site will be in the agricultural zone where essential local family housing need can be considered – see appendix 1 pages 74-79.

**Recommendation:** No Change to Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to zone this site at Drum, Tuam, for residential use.

**SUBMISSION D 14**

**Submitted by:**  
**John Healy**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Requests that Land Zoned Agricultural to be Re-Zoned Residential.

**Location:** The site is on the Ballymote Road just inside the existing environs boundary of the present plan

**Summary:** The site is typical of the agricultural minor frontages which the local area Councillors required to be zoned for residential use in the discussions on the pre-draft submissions. The site uses the subject of a refusal of Planning Permission because of its agricultural zoning.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. McHugh it was agreed that land zoned agricultural to be re-zoned residential.



**SUBMISSION D 15**

**Submitted by:**  
**Martin Reddington**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Commercial/Retail non manufacturing.

**Location:** The site is on the National Secondary Road Tuam/Dunmore, two kilometres north of Tuam Town Centre.

**Summary:** Mr Reddington has a Hardware/D.I.Y business at the Mall Tuam. He is hampered by lack of space and difficulty of access in conducting his business. He wishes to relocate to this site on the outskirts of Tuam where good road frontage exists. He would covenant to vacate and dispose of his existing buildings if he obtains planning permission of the prospective site.

**Response:** The site is significantly north of the proposed ring road for Tuam Town and outside the Town's speed limits. National policy restricts development outside speed limits to that which is essential for such a location on a National Route.  
There are adequate lands zoned for Industrial/Commercial development in the Draft Plan, including lands at the junction of the N 17 and Bobby Burke road to make provision for local service industries, start-ups and relocation of congested town industries.

**Recommendation:** No Alteration to Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

It was proposed by Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly to rezone lands from Agricultural to Commercial/Retail non manufacturing.

Mr. Ridge stated that this proposal was contrary to national policy and recommended that no alteration to the plan be made.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, C. Ní Fhatharta, S. Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, T. Welby, W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, P. Hynes, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (23)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

**SUBMISSION D 16**

**Submitted by:  
Mary Coleman  
New Road  
carrowmoneen**

**Issue:** Extension of Plan Boundary.

**Summary:** Objects to the extension of Tuam plan boundary as it will extend the urban fabric into this rural area and have an adverse affect on its wildlife, flora and fauna and the peace and quiet that rural people are familiar with.

**Response:** It is considered that the established Plan boundary for Tuam and its environs is adequate to accommodate the land uses which will be required for the social, economic, recreational and environmental needs of Tuam into the foreseeable future, without extending the urban fabric into its rural hinterland.

An essential part of the character of Irish towns is their setting in the rural landscape, and the immediacy of the environmental and agricultural assets to townspeople.

Needless sprawl should be considered unsustainable and alienable to both townspeople and people living in the rural environs.

**Recommendation:** Restore Plan boundary to its position in the present Plan for Tuam and its environs.

**County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Kavanagh stated that this submission involved extending the plan boundary and stated that there was no necessity to do so.

It was proposed by Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. McHugh to extend the Plan Boundary as indicated by a green line on the public submissions map.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, T. Welby, W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, P. Hynes, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (21)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.



**SUBMISSION D 17**

**Submitted by:  
Philomena & Martin Fox  
Curragh Park**

**Issue:** Road through Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as it would disrupt the quiet atmosphere and be a danger to young and old.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 18**

**Submitted by:**  
**Joe Desmond**  
**Lavally**

**Issue:** Development of Community Facilities on Dublin Road and Tree Planting Programme.

**Summary:** Refurbish and upgrade the existing playground on the Dublin Road by restricting vehicular access, improving lighting system, resurfacing and re-orientation of soccer pitch, construct handball alley, supply children's play equipment, plant trees.  
Include the remaining structures of the old Workhouse on the record of Protected Structures.

**Response:** The Policy in 3.11 [Amenity and Recreation] is "to co-operate with residents action groups and other development organisations in developing the amenity base of the town".

The specific suggestions made above can be taken into account in the operational programme for recreational amenities and its associated budget.

See comment on submission No 71 in relation to Protected Structures.

**Recommendation:** Include objective in 3.11 "To examine the facilities of Dublin Road Playground and carry out improvements to same".

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to include objective in 3.11 "To examine the facilities of Dublin Road Playground and carry out improvements to same".



**SUBMISSION D 19**

**Submitted by:**  
**Barry Egan**  
**Galway Road**

**Issue:** Rezone site from Residential to Commercial/Retail.

**Summary:** Planning Permission was granted for a garage complex on this site and it should now be zoned "Commercial/Retail".

**Response:** As the development was permitted in accordance with Planning Reference no 01/2807 and has been completed it is reasonable to re-zone the site in accordance with the use granted.

The provisions of the Retail Planning Guidelines will however apply should any fresh applications be lodged in respect of the site.

**Recommendation:** Rezone site as Commercial/Retail.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone site as Commercial/Retail.

**SUBMISSION D 20**

**Submitted by:**  
**Nuala Ryan**  
**3 New Road**  
**Carrowmoneen**

**Issue:** Extension of local area Plan Boundary.

**Summary:** Objects to the extension of the Town Plan Boundary as it would have a detrimental effect on the rural amenity of the area. The Carrowmoneen area is rich in flora and fauna, is usually attractive and is a tranquil and safe place frequented by locals who wish to get away from the noise and activity of built up areas.

**Response** It is considered that the established Plan boundary for Tuam and its environs is adequate to accommodate the land uses which will be required for the social, economic, recreational and environmental needs of Tuam into the foreseeable future, without extending the urban fabric into its rural hinterland.

An essential part of the character of Irish towns is their setting in the rural landscape, and the immediacy of the environmental and agricultural assets to townspeople.

Needless sprawl should be considered unsustainable and alienable to both townspeople and people living in the rural environs.

**Recommendation:** Restore Plan boundary to its position in the present Plan for Tuam and its environs.

**County Council Recommendation**

It was proposed by Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. McHugh to extend the Plan Boundary as indicated by a green line on the public submissions map.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, T. Welby, W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, P. Hynes, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (21)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.



**SUBMISSION D 21**

**Submitted by:  
Patrick Dunne  
St Josephs Park**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as it would disrupt the peace and amenity, which local people enjoy by the intrusion of vehicular traffic.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

Submitted by:  
Joe Desmond  
Gavin Lavalley

**Issue:** Development of Community Facilities on Dublin Road and Tree Planting Programme.

**Summary:** Refurbish and upgrade the existing playground on the Dublin Road by restricting vehicular access, improving lighting system, resurfacing and re-orientation of soccer pitch, construct handball alley, supply children's play equipment, plant trees.  
Include the remaining structures of the old Workhouse on the record of Protected Structures.

**Response:** The Policy in 3.11 [Amenity and Recreation] is "to co-operate with residents action groups and other development organisations in developing the amenity base of the town".

The specific suggestions made above can be taken into account in the operational programme for recreational amenities and its associated budget.

See comment on submission No 71 in relation to Protected Structures.

**Recommendation:** Include objective in 3.11 "To examine the facilities of Dublin Road Playground and carry out improvements to same".

#### County Council Recommendation

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to include objective in 3.11 "To examine the facilities of Dublin Road Playground and carry out improvements to same".



**SUBMISSION D 21**

**Submitted by:  
Patrick Dunne  
St Josephs Park**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as it would disrupt the peace and amenity, which local people enjoy by the intrusion of vehicular traffic.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 22**

Submitted by:  
**Jean Kelly**  
**Black Acre**  
**Milltown Road**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as it will "Severely Affect" people who use it on a daily basis with their children.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.



**SUBMISSION D 23**

**Submitted by:  
Tommy Coleman, John  
Hynes & Others  
Carrowmoneen**

**Issue:** Extension of the Plan Boundary.

**Summary:** The signatories of the submission object to the extension of the Town boundary to include lands at Carrowmoneen, Ballymote, Loughpark and Deerpark.  
The area is prime agricultural land, of scenic quality where the people of Tuam can access unpolluted surroundings of the town.

**Response:** It is considered that the established Plan boundary for Tuam and its environs is adequate to accommodate the land uses which will be required for the social, economic, recreational and environmental needs of Tuam into the foreseeable future, without extending the urban fabric into its rural hinterland.

An essential part of the character of Irish towns is their setting in the rural landscape, and the immediacy of the environmental and agricultural assets to townspeople.

Needless sprawl should be considered unsustainable and alienable to both townspeople and people living in the rural environs.

**Recommendation:** Restore Plan boundary to its position in the present Plan for Tuam and its Environs.

**County Council Recommendation**

It was proposed by Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. McHugh to extend the Plan Boundary as indicated by a green line on the public submissions map.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, T. Welby, W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, P. Hynes, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (21)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

**SUBMISSION D 24**

**Submitted by:**  
**Michael Quinn**  
**C/O M.B.K Associates**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Residential.

**Location:** The lands are located west of Tuam Town in the Townland of Killaloony.

**Summary:** The lands adjoin existing serviced residential land, some of which is under construction. It will be landlocked by the proposed N17 By-Pass from other Agricultural lands. This majority of lands west of Tuam which already have residential zoning are either developed or are being developed.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Ridge stated that if this land was rezoned from agriculture to residential it would have implications for the proposed by-pass and he stated that the zoning was premature. Cllr. McHugh stated that the map produced last week from the NRA was not an official document and therefore proposed to re-zone the lands from agricultural to residential. Mr. Morgan stated that the proposed route for the by pass has been changed and that it is an ongoing process. He stated that the route was in its infant stage and that the final route was not finalized on. He stated that the NRA and Road Design office were working on the route at the moment.

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to re-zone lands from agricultural to residential and to provide a buffer zone of 100 metres all around the proposed by-pass.



**SUBMISSION D 25**

**Submitted by:**  
**Tom Lavelle**  
**C/O M.B.K Associate**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Residential.

**Location:** The lands are located west of Tuam Town in the Townland of Killaloonty.

**Summary:** The lands are unsuitable for industrial zoning because they adjoin existing residential lands to the north and east which are owned by Mr Lavelle. They are "Land Locked" from the industrial lands to the south by the Suileen River. The majority of lands which are zoned residential on this side of Tuam are already built on.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. McHugh it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to residential.

**SUBMISSION D 26**

Submitted by:  
**Michael Loftus**  
**M.B.K Associates**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Residential.

**Location:** The lands are located west of Tuam Town in the Townland of Killaloonty.

**Summary:** The lands adjoin existing developed (or under development) residential lands to the south and east. Water and drainage services exist on adjoining site.  
The majority of residentially zoned land west of Tuam has already been developed.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning . There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Connolly it was agreed to rezone lands from agricultural to residential.



Submitted by:  
Siobhan Hannon  
Bishop St  
Ballygaddy Tuam

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the Proposal because it would continue the replacement of the many green areas which were traditional to Tuam. The Park is a haven and refuge without atmospheric pollution and should be left so.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.

All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

#### County Council Recommendation

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 28**

**Submitted by:**  
**John O Keefe**  
**Airlooney**  
**Ballygaddy Road**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Residential.

**Location:** The lands are located at Airlooney off the Ballygaddy and Kilcloghans Roads.

**Summary:** The lands are within the Plan Boundary and adjoin lands which are already zoned Residential. They are served by roads, footpath, electricity and water and are due to get a foul sewer under the Serviced Land Initiative. They are favourably located across from the Industrial Complex and are closer to Town Centre than other residentially zoned lands.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring “Hub” status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a “critical mass” of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to make no change in the Draft Plan and that it would remain agricultural.



**Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Residential.

**Location:** The Lands are located west of Tuam Town in the Townland of Killaloonty.

**Summary:** The lands are unsuitable for Industrial development, because they adjoin existing and proposed Residential development where services are available. They are "Landlocked" from other industrial zoned lands by the Suileen River and the majority of residentially zoned lands on this side of Tuam has already been developed.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to residential.

Submitted by:  
Maurice J Laheen  
C/O Paul  
Old Road  
Tuam

**Issue:** Tuam Courthouse

**Summary:** In view of its historical importance as a Georgian Building in Tuam it should be retained and given the status of Protected Structure.

**Response:** The appraisal which is currently being carried out on the Architectural Heritage of Tuam will examine buildings and structures of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest with a view to having them included on the Record of Protected Structures. Tuam Courthouse will be examined and a report will be presented to members during this assessment period.

**Recommendation:** Await Technical Report.

#### County Council Recommendation

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to await for the Technical Report.



**SUBMISSION D 31**

**Submitted by:**  
**Hugh Gormally**  
**C/O Paul O'Grady**

**Issue:** Zone lands for Residential Development.

**Location:** The lands in question are on the Birmingham Road outside Tuam.

**Summary:** Re-designate the lands in question from present status to "Housing" in line with local Councillors decision to extend Town Plan Boundary and designate infill sites from Agriculture to Housing.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney it was agreed to zone lands for residential development.

**SUBMISSION D 32**

Submitted by:  
**Gerry & Patricia King**  
**Bishop St**  
**Tuam**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Object to the proposal because it would decrease the parks amenity value by creating noise, pollution and because it would lead to further building development in the area.  
It would also conflict with the policies of permitting developments which have the "least possible environmental impact" and of protecting public spaces for the recreational and visual amenity of those living in Tuam.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.



**SUBMISSION D 33**

**Submitted by:**  
**Michael Gilmartin**  
**Secretary Tuam Lions Club**  
**Birmingham Road**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as it would "Destroy what is currently a safe and tranquil paradise". The grounds are used on a day each year providing fun and entertainment as part of their Charitable fund raising.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal to put this road in the last of Tuams open spaces.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.



**SUBMISSION D 35**

**Submitted by:  
Mary Cullinane  
Riverside Court**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal as a “Silly Idea” to intrude on the “only peaceful place we have in our Town.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**Tuam County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed that there was no proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through Palace Grounds and therefore no change in the Draft was required.

**SUBMISSION D 36**

**Submitted by:  
Willi Kiefel  
Park View Drive**

**Issue:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral and its townscape setting including the adjoining Grehan's Field.

**Summary:** St Mary's Cathedral's importance is the historical context of Tuam Town and as a cultural and tourist amenity has been overlooked. The commercial zoning of its precinct is inappropriate and should be changed to residential zoning. Grehan's field, which protects the Cathedrals setting from the south, probably has rich archaeology underlying it and should be zoned as "Recreation and Amenity".

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements. Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself. The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

**County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Kavanagh stated that a number of submissions had been received concerning St. Mary's Cathedral and stated that the majority of the submissions wanted Grehan's field downzoned to Recreation & Amenity. Mr. Kavanagh stated that Tuam Area Committee had recommended that Grehan's field be zoned commercial until such a time as the Council would prepare an Area Action Plan for the area

It was proposed by Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. McHugh to zone Grehan's Field as commercial.



Submitted by:  
Mary Egan

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, T. Reilly, W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, F. Healy-Eames, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (21)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

Urban's Field, which protects the cathedral's setting from the south, probably has rich archaeology underlying it and should be zoned as "Recreation and Amenity".

The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is well known. It is a medieval church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to prevent further deterioration of its place in the town, the view of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south needs to be preserved.

Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate modern and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for the removal of buildings which by their nature are marred by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some stakeholders as a solution it is not considered desirable to remove the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more realistic approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to refer to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

Recommendation: Review Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Includes a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

County Council Recommendation: See D36

SUBMISSION D 36

Submitted by:

**SUBMISSION D 37**

**Submitted by:**  
**Mary Egan**  
**Director of Nursing**  
**Aras Mhuire**

**Issue:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral and its townscape setting including the adjoining Grehan's field.

**Summary:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral in the historical context of Tuam Town and as a cultural and tourist amenity has been overlooked. The commercial zoning of its precinct is inappropriate and should be changed to residential zoning. Grehan's Field, which protects the cathedral's setting from the south, probably has rich archaeology underlying it and should be zoned as "Recreation and Amenity".

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

**County Council Recommendation**

See D36

**SUBMISSION D 38**

**Submitted by:**



**Issue:** Grehan's Field

**Summary:** Grehan's Field is in an area of exceptional Archaeological importance. Limited excavations carried out by O.P.W. staff in 1991 revealed cobbled paving and a cashel – like wall which was considered to date back to 1127 A.D. It would be “An Outrage” to allow commercial development thereon as suggested by proposed zoning. It should be zoned as community facilities as part of the enclosure of St Mary's Cathedral.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

#### County Council Recommendation

See D36

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to the proposal on the grounds that the Park should remain intact and that the road will impact on the lives of residents by reason of noise and pollution.  
The lack of detail indicates an attempt to foist the development on the people.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed no change was recommended.



**Issue:** Pedestrianising of Chapel Lane.

**Summary:** The Roadway outside his newly constructed premises should be pedestrianised in the interests of the safety of himself and the General Public.

**Response:** Tuam Traffic Management Plan is subject to ongoing appraisal which will examine the feasibility of pedestrianising streets in the core of Tuam town. Any pedestrianisation must have regard to reasonable vehicular access to town centre parking areas and to any relief roads or new development roads which may emerge.

**Recommendation:** No alteration to Draft Plan

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to insert an objective in the amended Draft to read as follows: "to examine the feasibility and advisability of pedestrianising Chapel Lane as part of pedestrianisation and traffic flow management measures in the Tuam Traffic Management Plan".

**Recommendation:** No alteration to Draft.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. Connaughton it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to industrial/commercial.

**Issue:** Rezone Lands from Industrial to Industrial/Commercial.

**Location:** The site is located in the Industrial area on the Weir Road on the Town side of the River Clare.

**Summary:** Planning Permission was granted last year for Industrial warehouse units on the site. In view of its location fronting on to the proposed N17 Bypass, applicant has had approaches from business interests and would benefit from an Industrial/Commercial Zoning

**Response:** The existing industrial zoning permits or allows consideration of a wide range of uses which are broadly commercial utilities. More than fifty separate categories are listed in the matrix on appendix 1.

Included are café, cash and carry, childcare facilities, commercial garage, conference centre, garden centre, educational facilities, laundrette, leisure and recreational facilities, offices, petrol station, restaurant, comparison shop, take-away retail – non-food warehousing.

Specifically excluded are stand alone food shop, shopping centre, public house.

Any of the permissible developments must of course have regard to proper planning principles such as, traffic safety, public health, visual amenity, good design, parking provisions, etc.

It is contended then that a sufficiently wide range of commercial enterprises can be accommodated in the Industrial zone without the necessity of altering the zoning in order to attract uses which would be more appropriately located in the Town Centre.

**Recommendation:** No alteration to Draft.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. Connaughton it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to industrial/commercial.



**Issue:** Rezone Lands from Agricultural to Residential.

**Location:** The Lands are located on the Cloontooa Road adjoining the soccer pitch.

**Summary:** The Site is close to the Centre of Town and all the necessary services. It will not be possible to farm it when the adjoining Residential land is developed

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring “Hub” status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a “critical mass” of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning . There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone lands from agricultural to residential.

**SUBMISSION D 43**

**Submitted by:  
Louise Leufer  
Park View Drive**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Fundamentally objects to the Proposal  
from Bishop Street to the Swimming Pool.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed no change was recommended.



Submitted by:  
Pascal A Leufer  
Park View Drive

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Fundamentally objects to any road in Palace Grounds other than road from Bishop Street to the Swimming Pool.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks. All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed no change was recommended.

**Issue:** St Mary's Cathedral and its Precincts.

**Summary:** The area in and around St Mary's Cathedral represents a millennium of the town's history. The Commercial Zoning surrounding it is inappropriate and the Mall Area in particular should be zoned as a prime residential area, offering an unhindered view of the Cathedral from the East.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

See D36



**Issue:** Traffic Management.

**Summary:** Omit Objective T.P 3 of the Draft Plan from the Plan

**Response:** Many of the measures outlined in the Traffic Management Plan have been implemented and have resulted in significant improvement to traffic flow and short term parking provision in the Town.  
Any further specific measures such as the construction of relief roads will be subject to Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and will be put before the elected members of the County Council for examination and sanction.  
Objective T.P.3 is considered important for the enhancement of the residential and business environment of the Town.

**Recommendation:** No Alteration to the Draft Plan.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, it was agreed to withdraw Cllr. Canney's submission.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation:**

It was proposed by Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly to extend the plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

**FOR:** W. Burke, J. Connolly, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Manning, S. O'Leary, T. Reilly, S. Canney, S. Connolly, P. Power, P. Healy, Eamonn, M. Hession, P. Hynds, S. Kyle, J. McDermott, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (20)

**SUBMISSION D 47**

**Submitted by:  
Archbishop Neary  
C/O Oliver Higgins**

**Issue:** Extension of Plan Boundary and zone lands for low density residential development.

**Location:** The lands are located a Bracklagh on the Birmingham Road.

**Summary:** Extend the Plan Boundary so as to include the lands and zone them for low density residential development. There are water services fronting the site and sewage treatment facilities can be installed privately. There is a demand for low density out of town houses for people who want to avoid the "Social Problems" in town, and the current restriction on housing on the urban fringe does not allow this.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

It was proposed by Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly to extend the plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: W. Burke, J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, T. Reilly, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, P. Feeney, F. Healy-Eames, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (20)



IN AGHAIDH: D. Connolly, C. Keaveney (2)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

Submitted by:  
Joseph Grógan  
Shop Street

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

**Issue:** Extension of Plan Boundary and zone lands for low density residential development.

**Location:** The lands are located at Breakagh on the Birmingham Road.

**Summary:** Extend the Town Boundary to include the lands and zone them for low density residential development. There are water services fronting the site and sewage treatment facilities can be installed privately. There is a demand for low density out of town houses for people who want to avoid the "Social Problems" in town, and the current restriction on housing on the urban fringe does not allow this.

**Reasons:** The National Spatial Strategy in confirming "Town" status on Town Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1,000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 (Table 2.2 page 18). Land take for this growth is approx 50 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 150 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submitter have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the recent Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**Council Recommendation:**

It was proposed by Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Keilly to extend the plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

**SUBMISSION D 48**

**Submitted by:  
Joseph Grogan  
Shop Street**

**Issue:** Extension of Plan Boundary and zone lands for low density residential development.

**Location:** The lands are located at Bracklagh on the Birmingham Road.

**Summary:** Extend the Town Boundary to include the lands and zone them for low density residential development. There are water services fronting the site and sewage treatment facilities can be installed privately.  
There is a demand for low density out of town houses for people who want to avoid the "Social Problems" in town, and the current restriction on housing on the urban fringe does not allow this.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning . There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

It was proposed by Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly to extend the plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:



**Monthly Meeting 22/11/2004**

AR SON: W. Burke, J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, T. Reilly, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, P. Feeney, F. Healy-Eames, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, S. Kyne, J. McDonagh, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (20)

IN AGHAIDH: D. Connolly, C. Keaveney (2)

GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

Objects to proposal as the road which will be to close permanently to the River Nanny will be detrimental to its visual and environmental value. The Association has carried out projects to enhance its public amenity and its spawning trout stock. Its existing amenity should be preserved.

There is no specific proposal in the Draft PPS to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, in conjunction with other private relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for pedestrian access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parking. All specific road construction proposals of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

If and when this process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

Recommendation: No change recommended.

Resolution: No change recommended.

Resolution of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed no change was recommended.

**SUBMISSION D 49**

**Submitted by:  
Richard Jordan  
Tuam Clare, Connaught  
Anglers Association**

**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** Objects to proposal as the road which will be in close proximity to the River Nanny will be detrimental to its visual and environmental status. The Association has carried out projects to enhance its public amenity and its spawning trout stock.  
Its existing amenity should be preserved.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No change recommended.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed no change was recommended.



**Issue:** Road through the Palace Grounds.

**Summary:** The Palace Park Grounds should be preserved as a 17<sup>th</sup> Century Park and no further development e.g. roads, commercial or housing should be allowed therein.

**Response:** There is no specific proposal in the Draft Plan to construct a road through the Palace Grounds. This traffic route, together with other putative relief roads, was put before local elected representatives as being required to cope with the growing pressures for vehicular access to Town Centre services, amenities and car parks.  
All specific road construction projects of this nature must come before Galway County Council members for their consent in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000.  
If and when that process is initiated many factors will be taken into consideration by the members including the Environmental and Amenity value of the Palace Grounds, its historical context and alternative viable routes.

**Recommendation:** No Change Recommended.

### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed no change was recommended.

**Issue:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral and its townscape setting, including the adjacent Grehan's Field.

**Summary:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral in the historical context of Tuam Town, and as a cultural and tourist amenity, has been overlooked. The commercial zoning of its precinct is inappropriate and should be changed to Residential Zoning. Grehan's Field, which protects the Cathedrals setting form the south, probably has rich archaeology underlying it and should be zoned recreation and amenity.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field form the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

See D36



**SUBMISSION D 52**

Submitted by:  
**Patrick O'Dwyer**  
**Circular Road**

**Issue:** The importance of St. Mary's Cathedral and its townscape setting, including the adjoining Grehans field.

**Summary:** In view of the historical significance of the Cathedral and surrounding area the adjoining Commercial zoning is inappropriate and has led in the past to insensitive development.  
Grehans field should be zoned for amenity purposes because of its former status as the medieval market core area of Tuam.  
Tuam would benefit as a "hub" if it had an imaginative mixed use place for this area.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the Townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the time status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

**County Council Recommendation**

See D36

**Issue:** Traffic management measures

**Summary:** There is an existing traffic hazard at the junction of Dublin Road and Dublin Road estate. A dished and tactile pedestrian crossing is required. Footpath improvement is required at Dublin Road Estate and speed calming measures are required on the road linking Dublin Road to Atherry Road.

**Response:** An examination of these proposals is required in the context of the annual road programme for Tuam Town and District. Survey and analysis are required in order to provide adequate solutions and submit for budgeting to the elected members.

**Recommendation:** Add an objective to 3.7 Traffic Management and Parking.  
"Investigate function of Dublin Road and Dublin Road Estate with a view to implementing safety measures for pedestrians. Examine also the feasibility of traffic calming measures on the road linking Dublin Road with Atherry Road".

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Connolly it was agreed to add an objective to the 3.7 Traffic Management and Parking. "Investigate junction of Dublin Road and Dublin Road Estate with a view to implementing safety measures for pedestrians. Examine also the feasibility of traffic calming measures on the road linking Dublin Road with Atherry Road".



**Issue:** The importance of St. Mary's Cathedral and its townscape setting including the adjoining Grehans field. It also includes the road through the Palace Grounds

**Summary:** St. Mary's derives its special significance from 1152AD when it became the metropolitan church of the Province of Connacht. It has been overlooked as a cultural and tourist amenity and its setting has been diminished by inappropriate commercial building nearby. The Mall should be zoned residential rather than commercial and Grehans field which contains a wealth of archaeological deposits and which sets off St. Mary's from the south should be zoned "Recreation and Amenity". Finally there is a fundamental objection to any road in the Palace Grounds.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field from the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

#### County Council Recommendation

See D36

**Issue:** The importance of St. Mary's Cathedral and its Townscape setting, including the adjacent Grehan's field.

**Summary:** St. Mary's derives its special significance from 1152AD when it became the metropolitan church of the Province of Connacht. The view across Grehans field gives it correct spatial context comparable with the Cathedrals of York and Salisbury in England. Grehans field overlays a rich archaeological heritage and is comparable with Woodquay in Dublin. It should be zoned as Recreational and Amenity.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field form the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land uses and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasible to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any re-development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

#### County Council Recommendation

See D36



**SUBMISSION D 56**

Submitted by:  
**Mr. Padraig Stephens**  
**Church View**

**Issue:** The Mill Museum

**Summary:** The Mill Museum should be included in the list of Protected Structures and its environs should be preserved as a recreational and amenity zone.

**Response:** The appraisal which is currently being carried out on the Architectural Heritage of Tuam will examine buildings and structures of special architectural, historical archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest with a view to having them included on the record of Protected Structures. The Mill Museum will be examined and a report will be presented to members during this assessment period.

**Recommendation:** Await Technical Report.

**County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Kavanagh stated that it was indicated from the Conservation Officer that the Mill Museum merits inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures and as there was no Technical Report available its inclusion would have to be deferred.

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to await the Technical Report and not to change the Plan.

Submitted by:  
**Mr. John A. Waldron**  
**Cloondarone**

**Issue:** Tobar Jarlath

**Summary:** This is thought to be the origin of a monastic settlement. It should be subject to archaeological investigation and subsequently, if appropriate, developed as a site of historical significance.

**Response:** Tobar Jarlath site – NO GA043-080 in the Register of Sites and Monuments is on lands zoned for agricultural development in the Draft Plan. In view of its possible importance to the origins of Tuam it is reasonable to provide for and archaeological investigation to advise on its status and importance

**Recommendation:** Add objective to 3.3 Archaeology.

- Carry out an archaeological investigation of Tobar Jarlath and its immediate surrounds.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to add objective to 3.3 Archaeology to “Carry out an archaeological investigation of Tobar Jarlath and its immediate surrounds”.



**SUBMISSION D 58**

**Submitted by:**  
**Michael O'Neill**  
**Carrowbaun**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Residential

**Summary:** The site is located in the Townland of Airglooney 64 metres from the Tuam/Ballinrobe Road.

**Summary:** There is a current planning permission for one house on the 1.25 acre site. A sewer line has been laid to join with the main sewer to be constructed under the Service Land Initiative (Airglooney). There are no provisions in the Draft Plan which would prevent zoning this site as Residential. The Hub status of Tuam and the Serviced Land Initiative support the rezoning case and there is no logical reason why it should not be zoned residential.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to rezone lands from agricultural to residential.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to extend plan boundary and zone land for residential.

**Issue:** Extend Plan Boundary and zone land for low density residential.

**Location:** The lands are located on a minor road at Gardenfield.

**Summary:** There is extensive residential development in the Garden field area inside and outside the Plan boundary. A shortage of land exists for low density housing which is in demand but the County Development Plan encourages such development into the smaller settlement villages. In these villages the trend is towards higher densities and the market is not therefore catered for. The extension of the boundary and inclusion of these lands will provide the required alternative housing density.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to extend plan boundary and zone land for residential.



**SUBMISSION D 60**

**Submitted by:**  
**Tommy McDonagh**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Extend the plan boundary and zone lands for Residential Development

**Location:** The lands are divided into two lots, one at Gardenfield and one at Kilcloghans.

**Summary:** The lands at Gardenfield are partly inside and partly outside the Plan boundary. The boundary should be extended to include all of the lands. The Kilcloghans lands are inside the boundary and inside the proposed N17 bypass and are zoned "Agriculture".  
Because of the shortage of land to meet the market for low density residential development, and in view of the County Development Plan policy of restricting ribbonised rural site and encouraging such growth into villages there is a need for low density sites in Tuam.  
An extension of the boundary and a zoning/rezoning of all these lands for Residential Development is sought.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Ridge presented the map to the Councillors showing the revised route for the Tuam By-Pass. The Councillors were critical of late receipt of the map, the fact that it could not be confirmed as an official route and they objected to the fact that the route cut across the Kilcloghans Road twice. In order to join up with the existing N17 it cut through the lands which are the subject matter of submissions no. 12 and 60. The councilors stated that the

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NRA had given them no chance to comment on the revised route in the context of the Local Area Plan.

Mr. Morgan outlined the general design and consultation process and the NRA's obligation to adhere to their budget. If constraints were put in the way, it could jeopardise the immediate prospects of implementing the By Pass. The councilors voiced their opposition to the most recent proposal from the NRA and voiced the need for an early solution to Tuam traffic problems. The Co. Manager and Mr. Ridge advised the councilors not to zone submission 12 and 60.

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to accept the official's recommendation and not to zone submission 60. It was further agreed that this issue would be revisited once the CPO for Tuam By Pass was confirmed.

Response:

As part of the Draft Plan the Councilors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

Recommendation:

Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

County Council Recommendation

On the proposal of Cllr. Carney, seconded by Cllr. McFagh it was agreed to rezone lands from agricultural to residential.



**Submission D 61**

**Submitted by:**  
**Maureen Parsons**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Residential

**Location:** The lands are at Gardenfield just inside the Plan Boundary

**Summary:** This site is proposed to be developed for a single house for the applicants daughter. It will follow the pattern of development in the area of detached houses on large sites.  
Because of the market demand for such low density development and because the County Development Plan policy directs such development into village settlement centres where no specific indication is given of suitable sites there is a shortage of supply.  
A rezoning of this site from Agriculture to Residential is sought to meet this specific family requirement.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. McHugh it was agreed to rezone lands from agricultural to residential.

**Submission D 62**

**Submitted by:**  
**Sean Quinn**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Extend Plan boundary and zone lands for Residential Development

**Location:** The lands are located on a minor road at Gardenfield

**Summary:** The 10 acres in question are situated on a minor road just outside the Plan boundary. It is intended to provide low density housing on the site and it requires an extension of the Plan Boundary and a residential zoning to realise it.

The County Development Plan policy of directing such low density houses into village settlement centres will not succeed unless specific sites are identified in those villages. And extension of the Tuam Plan Boundary and a conferring of Residential zoning on these lands will help to meet the market demand.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to extend plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.



**Submission D 63**

**Submitted by:**  
**Robert McPhillips**  
**C/O A. P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Extend Plan Boundary and zone lands for Residential Development

**Location:** The lands are located on a minor road at Gardenfield

**Summary:** The site had outline permission for a house which subsequently lapsed. County Development Plan policy makes it unlikely that a new permission will be granted unless the Plan boundary is extended and the site is zoned for Residential development. County Development plan policy directs low density housing into settlement villages but this policy will not succeed until specific sites are indicated for this purpose.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring “Hub” status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a “critical mass” of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning . There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to extend plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.

**Submission D 64**

**Submitted by:**  
**Bernie Hynes**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Residential

**Location:** The lands are located at Airglooney west of the Ballygaddy Road

**Summary:** The National Spatial Strategy conferred the status of the "Hub" to Tuam Town whose role is to grow, energise its catchment and link other Hubs and Gateways. County Development Plan policy recognises Tuam's role as a Hub and supports its growth. It also advocates consolidating existing towns and village and directs urban generated development into centres such as Tuam. The rate of growth of housing in Tuam between 2000 and 2004 was in line with the G.T.P.S and the County Development guidelines. Rezoning of the lands in question will further consolidate the policies of the National Spatial Strategy and the County Development Plan. The site is a subdivision of applicants industrial lands but is superfluous to his business needs and is of an unsuitable shape for Industrial purpose. The normal infrastructure is nearby and can be connected to the site.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to residential



**Submission D 65**

**Submitted by:**  
**Michael & Esther Mannion**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Extend Plan Boundary and zone lands for Residential Development

**Location:** The lands are located at Gardenfield on a minor road.

**Summary:** The area has extensive housing development of low density along the roads inside and outside the Town Plan boundary. The market demand for such housing is not being matched by the supply of sites because the County Development Plan policy directs such development into village settlements, while neglecting to identify suitable sites therein. This proposal will provide viable low density houses in the form of an Eco-bluster constructed by Griffner Coillte Joint Venture. The lifestyle being promoted includes, allotments, children's play area, access to nearby woodland, pedestrian ways and cycle paths.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to extend plan boundary and zone lands for residential development.

Submission D 66

Submitted by:  
Joe Dillon  
C/O A.P. McCarthy

**Issue:** Zone lands from Agricultural to Residential

**Location:** The lands are located at Airglooney east of the former Sugar company site.

**Summary:** The National Spatial Strategy conferred "Hub" status on Tuam Town, whose role it is to grow, energise its catchment and link with other "Hubs" and "Gateways".  
County Development Plan policy recognises Tuam's role as a "Hub and supports is growth. It also advocates consolidating other towns and village and directs urban generated rural development into centres such as Tuam. The rate of growth of housing in Tuam between 2000 and 2004 was in line with the G.T.P.S and the County Development Plan guidelines. Rezoning of the lands in question will further consolidate the policies of the Nation Spatial Strategy and the County Development Plan.  
Applicants house and two others already exist on the land and the residential zoning sought will consolidate the existing development and sustainably avail of existing services.

**Response:** As part of the Draft Plan the Councillors for the Tuam Electoral Area voted to confer residential status on the Agricultural zones along the minor roads within the Town Plan Boundary. The site in question is located in such a zone.

Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered primarily on the principles of proper Planning and Development and will have regard to the established settlement patterns along these roads.

**Recommendation:** Allow reasonable infill development but restrict the extension of ribbon development in order to preserve the existing rural character of the outskirts of the Town.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. McHugh it was agreed to zone lands from agricultural to residential.



**Submission D 67**

**Submitted by:**  
**Martin Geoghegan**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Commercial or allow a broader range of developments on Industrial zones.

**Location:** The lands are located on the Galway Road at Killaloonty

**Summary:** The National Spatial Strategy conferred "Hub" status on Tuam Town, whose role it is to grow, energise its catchment and link with other Hubs and Gateways.  
County Development Plan policy supports the growth of Tuam as a self-sustaining town and as a satellite town to Galway City Gateway. It envisages an increase in population of 7,400 people by 2016.  
The Tuam Draft plan supports the expansion of the commercial base of the Town, facilitates neighbourhood shopping and encourages relocation of unsuitable town centre developments.  
The proposed location is suitable for the growing demand for recreation facilities, discount stores, wholesale outlets. It has adequate road access, water supply, drainage facilities and permission for 17 Industrial/Commercial units but has been refused permission for sports hall, amusement centre, bar etc.

**Response:** The existing industrial zoning permits or allows consideration of a wide range of uses which are broadly commercial utilities. More than fifty separate categories are listed in the matrix on appendix 1.  
Included are café, cash and carry, childcare facilities, commercial garage, conference centre, garden centre, educational facilities, laundrette, leisure and recreational facilities, offices, petrol station, restaurant, comparison shop, take-away retail – non-food warehousing.  
Specifically excluded are stand alone food shop, shopping centre, public house.  
Any of the permissible developments must of course have regard to proper planning principles such as, traffic safety, public health, visual amenity, good design, parking provisions, etc.  
It is contended then that a sufficiently wide range of commercial enterprises can be accommodated in the Industrial zone without the necessity of altering the zoning in order to attract uses which would be more appropriately located in the Town Centre.

**Recommendation:** No alteration to Draft.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to commercial or allow a broader range of developments on industrial zones.

**Submission D 68**

**Submitted by:  
Teresa Togher  
C/O A.P. McCarthy**

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Commercial or allow a broader range of developments on Industrial lands.

**Location:** The lands are located on the Galway Road on the outskirts of the Town.

**Summary:** The National Spatial Strategy conferred "Hub" status on Tuam Town, whose role it is to grow, energise its catchment and link with other Hubs and Gateways.

County Development Plan policy supports the growth of Tuam as a self-sustaining town and as a satellite town to Galway City Gateway. It envisages an increase in population of 7,400 people by 2016.

The Tuam Draft plan supports the expansion of the commercial base of the Town, facilitates neighbourhood shopping and encourages relocation of unsuitable town centre developments.

The proposed location is suitable for the growing demand for discount stores, wholesale outlets, education facilities etc. It has adequate road access, water supply, drainage facilities and can accommodate parking demands which are not catered or in the town centre.

**Response:** The existing industrial zoning permits or allows consideration of a wide range of uses which are broadly commercial utilities. More than fifty separate categories are listed in the matrix on appendix 1.

Included are café, cash and carry, childcare facilities, commercial garage, conference centre, garden centre, educational facilities, laundrette, leisure and recreational facilities, offices, petrol station, restaurant, comparison shop, take-away retail – non-food warehousing.

Specifically excluded are stand alone food shop, shopping centre, public house.

Any of the permissible developments must of course have regard to proper planning principles such as, traffic safety, public health, visual amenity, good design, parking provisions, etc.

It is contended then that a sufficiently wide range of commercial enterprises can be accommodated in the Industrial zone without the necessity of altering the zoning in order to attract uses which would be more appropriately located in the Town Centre.

**Recommendation:** No alteration to Draft.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to commercial or allow a broader range of developments on industrial zones.



**Submission D 69**

**Submitted by:**  
**Paddy Kilgarriff**  
**C/O A.P. McCarthy**

- Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Residential
- Location:** The lands are located at this Northern Outskirts of Tuam at the junction of the Bobby Burke Road and the N17.
- Summary:** The National Spatial Strategy conferred "Hub" status on Tuam Town whose roll it is to grow, envisage its catchment and link with other "Hubs" and "Gateways".  
County Development Plan policy supports the growth of Tuam in its settlement strategy. It envisages Tuam as a self-sustaining town and as a satellite town to Galway City Gateway with a growth of population of 7,400 by the year 2016 in line with the G.T.P.S.  
The Tuam Draft plan supports the strategy of providing adequate zoned lands to meet the growing residential demand. Development trends to date have in general been in line with growth projections.  
These lands are well located and can be fully serviced. They are suitable for the proposed new community school which would be more appropriately located in a residential rather than an Industrial zone.
- Response:** There are 180 Hectares zoned for Residential Development in the draft plan. This is sufficient to cater for the growth of population required for its "Hub" status by 2020 let alone for the period of the plan. Any further residential zoning will be significantly in excess of needs and may be in conflict with the Regional Planning guidelines and the County Development Plan.  
  
The lands in question have been zoned for industrial purposes so as to make provision for start up, incubator and service industries which are not usually located on I.D.A sites, and which would benefit from good road access and detachment from unsuitable adjoining uses. This location would also encourage the relocation of businesses in the building, D.I.Y and bulk storage trades out of congested town centre sites, thereby allowing regeneration of these sites to the multiple of service and residential uses which make towns vibrant and attractive.  
  
In-so-far as a Community School is concerned there has been no submission from educational authorities to the plan. There are extensive lands zoned for community facilities in the Draft Plan which should be sufficient for community school needs.

**Recommendation:** No Change in Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. Canney, seconded by Cllr. McHugh it was agreed no change be made to Draft Plan and to maintain the existing industrial zoning.

**Issue:** Retail Policies in the Draft Plan

**Summary:** The draft plan contains some contradictions on the location of retail outlets. This should be clarified.  
There is a need for convenient accessible food stores which are accessible, convenient and freestanding.  
Tuam Town centre is congested, lacks competition in the retail trade and lacks adequate sites for modern retail development. Tuam will rely on private car trips to shopping outlets because of a lack of public transport. This will require adequate, accessible parking provision off street for bulk shopping. The Retail Guidelines takes account of this in giving consideration to edge of Town Centre Locations.  
The Guidelines state that Planning Authorities should avoid taking actions which would adversely affect competition in the retail market.  
Tesco are looking at options to relocate its town centre store to a more appropriate location and require the Planning Authority to identify viable and available sites.

**Response:** It is not accepted that there is a contradiction between 2.9 and 3.12. The zoning matrix clearly allows a neighbourhood shop in a residential area while prohibiting a Shopping Centre. This policy in turn promotes competition and allows the market to determine what the public will support.

The thrust of the retail guidelines is to give primacy to the Town Centres in retailing unless particular ranges of items require storage space and vehicular access not available in congested town centres. A sequential approach is then applied in permitted edge of town centre locations.

In the case of Tuam there are two large supermarkets trading and a third one under construction with a number of smaller businesses represented by R.G.D.A.T.A [which has a pre draft submission outlining their policy]. Pending the completion of the County Retail Strategy it is considered that Tuam is well served by retail outlets and associated parking.

Should the retail strategy find that shortcomings are likely during the period of the plan it is considered that there are sites close to the town centre in the commercial zone that are suitable for a shopping centre

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

#### County Council Recommendation

On the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed no change be made to Draft Plan.



**Submission D 71**

**Submitted by:  
John Laffan,  
D.O.E.H.L.G.**

- Issue:** Several, including
- Settlement Strategy and associated population projections
  - Relationship of Plan to Western Regional Guidelines
  - Infrastructural, servicing and employment priorities
  - Architectural and Archaeological requirements
  - Nature Conservation requirements

**Summary:** The Department is concerned that the population forecasts and the zoning of lands are in accordance with the provisions of the Regional Planning Guidelines and the County Development Plan and that adequate service provision for land uses is taken into account

In relation to Architectural Heritage the R.P.S. should comply with the requirements of the 2001 Planning Regulations.

There should be ongoing assessments of the Town's structures to

- (1) Include additional R.P.S.
- (2) Indicate structure of special interest
- (3) Advance the process of designating Architectural Conservation Areas (A.C.A.'s)
- (4) Producing maps of adequate scale and clarity to show the structures and their curtilage
- (5) Promote the A.C.A.'s as a positive influence for development within the town.

In the case of Archaeological Heritage the lands between St. Marys Cathedral and the Railway Line (Grehan's field) should be rezoned to be building free

A buffer zone should be provided in the residential zoning around Tober Jarlath.

Natural Heritage : - There is no specific recognition given to the ecological importance of watercourses. Policies for the protection of these spheres of influence should be included.

Policies should be included to protect large areas of habitat in the rural environs of the plan and in particular wetlands and lands liable to flooding.

Objectives should be included to carry out a flood study so as to inform future planning requirements and developments proposals.

An objective is also required to recognise and protect bats and conserve their habitats.

An objective should be included to protect surface and ground waters in keeping with the Water Framework Directive

**Response:** The draft plan is generally in compliance with the Western Regional Planning Guidelines and the County Development Plan Objectives. Its land use provisions are adequate to cater for the build of population to the critical mass of 15,000 required for the "Hub". The objectives for the provision of infrastructure ensure that essential community services can be delivered at a pace with the growing population.

A number of Urban Renewal Scheme Projects are proceeding and are regenerating development in disused areas of the town centre.

Traffic Management measures have improved access to businesses and amenities and will continue to be applied.

There is widespread public support for the Western Rail Corridor and in particular for the Tuam/Athenry link to be re-opened and serviced.

Design work is proceeding on the N 17 Bypass which is necessary to relieve the daily traffic congestion on the approaches to the town.

The water services investment programme includes the ongoing improvement to the water distribution network.

**Architecture:** An appraisal is currently being carried out of the Architectural Heritage of Tuam. This will lead to the identification of an Architectural Conservation Area [A.C.A] and to a guideline document which will advise on the indigenous qualities of the buildings and on measures to be taken in restoring or altering them. The A.C.A is considered as an incentive to the renewal and revitalisation of an area. The appraisal will also update the Record of Protected Structures.

**Archaeology:** The question of the setting of St Mary's Cathedral and Grehan's Field has been raised in a number of submissions and is specifically addressed in those.

It is also recommended that an objective be included to carry out an archaeological investigation on the location of Tober Jarlath and measures be applied to protect it, as necessary.

**Nature Conservation Recommendations:**

1. Agree that there should be a specific policy for watercourses. Possible wording for this policy could be 'To protect watercourses, their banks and riparian habitats and their floodplains. Policies 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.4.3 deal with ecological corridors.
2. Regarding point 2 policies 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.4.3, 3.4.4, 3.4.5 have been written for all of the areas included in the Town Plan and do not distinguish between urban and rural eg. 'Maintain and enhance the natural heritage and amenity of the town by promoting and encouraging the preservation of woodlands, individual trees, hedgerows, stone walls and other natural features in the landscape'. The Plan also



- seeks to protect, conserve and where possible enhance the biodiversity of the town (Policy 3.4.3). A policy could be added to protect wetlands.
3. Point 5 – ‘objectives should be included to section 3.4 to identify and protect wetlands, including peatlands.....’ These issues could be addressed as part of the natural heritage audit.
  4. Point 6 regarding Bats – the Draft Plan contains a policy 3.4.4 to protect and conserve protected species. It policy could be added to and include a specific policy for bats that could be worded as follows ‘ To protect bats, their roost sites, maintain hedgerows, treelines and other ecological corridors as flight paths and commuting routes for bats.’
  5. Point 7 – A policy could be included to consult with the NPWS ( National Parks and Wildlife Service) and the Western Regional Fisheries in relation to any developments that may impact on the River Clare and the River Nanny.
  6. Point 10 – Agree with including policy regarding the protection of surface waters and groundwaters.

### **County Council Recommendation**

Mr. Kavanagh gave an outline of the Department’s lengthy submission which relates to the necessity of compliance with National Policies, Regulatory Guidelines and Co. Development Plan objectives. Mr. Kavanagh also stated that the Draft in general complied with the above although there was some over zoning of residential lands. This might be accepted in view of Tuam Hub Status. There were observations from the Conservation & Heritage Services of the Department in relation to Architectural Conservation areas in the town and to the necessity of protecting wetlands, flood plains and habitats. The Council’s Heritage Officer proposed objectives and it was agreed to include the said objectives.

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to accept the recommendation of the Heritage Officer.

**Issue:** Rezone lands from Agricultural to Residential

**Location:** The lands are located south of Bohernagreine and east of the Town Centre

**Summary:** These lands will not be viable for agricultural use when the surrounding lands, some of which already contain houses and some which are zoned for residential development, are developed. They are better positioned in terms of their closeness to the Town Centre and in their accessibility to water drainage and road services than some other residential lands.  
A co-ordinated layout of housing with open spaces, roads, pedestrian and cycle ways in conjunction with adjacent residential land would be in keeping with many of the plans aspirations.

**Response:** The National Spatial Strategy in conferring "Hub" status on Tuam Town requires a population growth to a "critical mass" of 15,000 people by 2020. This is given expression in the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which indicates a growth of 1000 residential units in the period 2003-2009 [Table 2.2 page 18]. The land-take for this growth is approx 60 Hectares.

The Draft Plan zones 180 Hectares for residential development which will allow for a range of housing mixes and densities and will take into account that some of the lands may not be available for development.

The submissions have sought an additional 100 Hectares of Residential zoning. There is evidently no need for such zoning during the period of the Plan, and such an addition would be in conflict with the County Development Plan Settlement Framework which have been reinforced in the Western Regional Guidelines.

There is a legal obligation on Local Area Plans to be consistent with the objectives of the County Development Plan.

**Recommendation:** No change in Draft Plan.

#### **County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Reilly it was agreed to rezone lands from agricultural to residential.



**Submission D 73**

**Submitted by:**  
**John Colreavy**  
**Health & Safety Authority**

**Issue:** Health & Safety

**Summary:** The Authority provides advice on land use issue relating to the control of Major Accident Hazards involving dangerous substances and have no specific observations to make.

**Response:** No alteration to Draft.

**Recommendation:** No alteration to the Draft Plan.

**County Council Recommendation**

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to note the submission and that no alteration to the Draft Plan was required.

**Submission D 74**

**Submitted by:  
Dr. Peter Harbison  
Loughshinny  
Skerries  
Co. Dublin**

**Issue:** Grehans Field

**Summary:** Archaeological investigations have indicated this location as being rich in its antiquity and should be the subject of a total investigation. It should not be zoned Commercial and should be left fallow.

**Response:** The importance of St Mary's Cathedral is will stated, deriving its importance from its age, its medieval status as the metropolitan church of the Province and the unique features of some of its architectural elements.

Externally its setting has been altered and occluded over the years with no realistic prospect of a reversal. In order to guard against further deterioration of its place in the townscape the views of the Cathedral across Grehan's Field form the south require to be preserved. Consequently Grehan's Field should be left free of buildings by changing the zoning from commercial to recreation and amenity. This would also allow thorough archaeological investigation with a view to establishing the local status of the Field itself.

The appearance of the Cathedral from the Mall has suffered from inappropriate land used and building styles. Provision has been made in the Draft Plan for relocation of businesses which by their nature are restricted by lack of space and congested traffic access. Although advocated by some submissions as a solution it is not considered feasibly to rezone the Mall precinct from commercial to residential. A more practical approach would be to require any redevelopment proposal to adhere to design guidelines to be drawn up in consultation with the Planning Authority.

**Recommendation:** Rezone Grehan's Field from Commercial to Recreation and Amenity. Include a policy which will require any Re-Development proposals in the Mall to have regard to design guidelines to be prepared by the Planning Authority.

**County Council Recommendation**

See D36



**Issue:** Rezone lands from Industrial to Commercial.

**Location:** The lands are located at Farranamartin on the Galway Road

**Summary:** The lands in question contain the N17 Hotel/ Leisure Complex and Business Park. There are currently 54 business units and a restaurant on site and it is proposed to construct a filling station and convenience store.

The growing residential population of Tuam needs such a facility as it would help to alleviate current traffic problems in and around the Town and save travelling to Galway City for their needs.

**Response:** The Zoning Matrix [ Appendix 1 ] for Tuam Town allows permission in principle for a petrol filling station on Industrial lands. This could also include a convenience shop not exceeding 100 square metres in area. The thrust of the Retail Planning Guidelines is to restrict out of town retail uses which would threaten the viability of Town centre retail businesses. Any tendency towards a multiplicity of retail shops or large supermarkets in this area would have such an effect during the lifetime of this plan.

**Recommendations:** No Change in Draft Plan.

#### County Council Recommendation

Cllr. Reilly who made the submission declared his interest and left the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney it was agreed to rezone lands from industrial to commercial.

**Introduced for the first time at the meeting:**

**Submission D76**

Cllr. McHugh proposed that a half acre site on the Ballymoate Road be rezoned from agricultural to residential and supplied the relevant map. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Canney and agreed.

**Submission D77**

Cllr. McHugh stated a late submission had been received with regard to a site that was currently zoned community facilities. The site was located at the junction of Athenry Road and Dublin Road and Cllr. McHugh supplied the relevant map. Cllr. Canney proposed that this site be zoned residential, and this was seconded by Cllr. McHugh and agreed.

**Submission D78**

Cllr. McHugh stated that JFC Manufacturing had made a late submission requesting the rezoning of land on the Weir Road from agricultural to industrial. Mr. Kavanagh stated that he was aware of the submission and that it wasn't included in the Draft Plan as the site was located outside the plan boundary. Mr. Kavanagh stated that JFC is within 150 metres of the Tuam Business Park which has undeveloped land and felt that there was no necessity in zoning this submission industrial and therefore recommended that it should not be rezoned. Mr. Ridge stated that there was a difficulty with access and sight distance and would not recommend this area to be developed. Cllr. McHugh stated that JFC was a manufacturing unit of a waste product and requires extensive storage area. Cllr. Reilly stated that JFC was a huge employer in Tuam and that every effort should be made to support the industry. Mr. Ridge stated that the reasons put forward were not valid and proper reasons and that the zoning was being done for an individual. He stated that the whole development and Tuam town need to be taken into account and that there was adequate land in D69 to take into account this type of development. Cllr. Connolly stated that sustainable development is about keeping an industry prosperous and sustainable and keeping jobs in Tuam. Cllr. Mannion stated that the rezoning has to be good for the area and and that there has never been a problem with personalizing it before and that material alterations have been made before. Mr. Ridge stated that they were actively zoning land to enable an individual to avail of land at a cheaper price.

Cllr. McHugh proposed that the plan boundary be extended and rezone the parcel of land from agricultural to residential as indicated on map supplied by Cllr. McHugh. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Reilly.

A vote was taken on this proposal and the result of the vote was:

AR SON: M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, T. Mannion, S. Ó Tuairisg, T. Reilly, W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, F. Healy-Eames, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, P. Hynes, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, T. McHugh, M. Mullin, T. Walsh, B. Willers (18)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)



GAN VOTÁIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

**Submission 79**

Cllr. McHugh proposed that a small portion of land at Rinkippeen, Dublin Road currently zoned Recreation and Amenity be rezoned to Residential. Mr. Kavanagh stated that this proposal could be put on public display and would be open to submissions. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Canney and agreed.

**Submission 80**

Cllr. McHugh proposed that a provision be put into the Plan that when Tuam has a Railway Station that provision be made for a Travel Centre to be located at the Station. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Canney and agreed.

**Submission 81**

Cllr. McHugh proposed that a provision be put into the Tuam Plan to facilitate a modern country market. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Canney and agreed.

**Submission 82**

Cllr. McHugh proposed to rezone a small strip of land behind Mill Stream Park from Recreation & Amenity to be unzoned. This was seconded by Cllr. Connolly and agreed.

**ADOPTION OF CARPARK (EDDIE O'DEA'S CARPARK, LOUGHREA) BYE-LAWS 2004** **198**

A Report on the above matter was already circulated to members.

On the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Willers, the bye-laws for Eddie O'Dea's Carpark, Loughrea were approved for adoption by the Council.

**FILLING OF CASUAL VACANCY ON THE RIVER FERGUS JOINT DRAINAGE COMMITTEE** **199**

Report dated the 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was circulated to members.

Cllr. Reilly proposed that the Casual Vacancy on the Membership of the River Fergus Joint Drainage Committee be filled by Cllr. Regan, and this was seconded by Cllr. Mannion and agreed.

**FILLING OF CASUAL VACANCY ON THE LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE** **200**

Report dated the 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was circulated to members.

Comh. Ní Fhatharta proposed that the Casual Vacancy on the Membership of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee be filled by Cllr. Mannion, and this was seconded by Cllr. Hoade and agreed

**NOMINATION OF 4 MEMBERS TO THE COUNTY GALWAY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

201

Report dated the 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 was circulated to each member.

Mr. Murphy, outlined to members that the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001 provided for the appointment by Galway County Council of 4 members (2 male and 2 female) to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee in addition to the nine members appointed at the Council Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2004. Mr. Murphy informed the members that following public advertisement seven nominations were received for consideration by the members by the closing date, however two of the nominees; Messer's. Frank Curley and Tomás Ó Nidh had since withdrawn from the appointment process.

The remaining nominees were as follows:

- Pat Gilmore, Carrow House, Dublin Road, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Breda Keaveney, Bushtown, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway
- Mary Lane Heneghan, Caherdevane, Craughwell, Co. Galway
- Betsy Maloney, Roy, Dunmore, Co. Galway.
- Peadar Ó Céidigh, Ugúil, Maigh Cuilinn, Co. na Gaillimhe

Mr. Murphy said that there were only 2 male nominees remaining for 2 positions and accordingly it was proposed by Cllr. Canney seconded by Cllr. Keaveney and agreed that Mr. Pat Gilmore be appointed to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee and it was proposed by Comh O'Cuaig seconded by Cllr. Kyne and agreed that Mr. Peadar O'Ceidigh be appointed to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee.

In relation to the female appointments the Mayor said that there were 3 nominees for 2 positions and accordingly the appointments would have to be made by resolution of the Council.

**First Vacancy**

It was proposed by Cllr. Walsh, seconded by Cllr Connaughton that Breda Keaveney be nominated to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee.

Cllr. Walsh stated that he was nominating Breda Keaveney as she was widely experienced and involved in a number of organisations and was an excellent candidate for the position.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cannon, seconded by Cllr. Mannion that Mary Lane Heneghan be nominated to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee.

Cllr. Cannon outlined to members that he was nominating Mary Lane Heneghan for the position in recognition for her dedicated service to people with disabilities under the auspices of the Cystic Fibrosis Association. He said that the Council should lend its support to the cause of independent living for people, he said that Ms. Heneghan was a worthy nominee for the position.

Cllr. Cannon also said that he was aware that members of the Technical Group had met Ms. Lane Heneghan and advised her to withdraw her name as they had already decided who was being appointed to this committee. Cllr. Mannion said that it was most unsatisfactory if



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members of the Council were trying to influence nominees in this fashion and he proposed that these appointments be deferred and the process be recommenced in the light of what had taken place. Cllr. Mannion proposal to defer the appointments to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee was seconded by Cllr. Cannon. A vote was taken on this proposal which resulted as follows:-

**AR SON:** Cllrs. C. Cannon, J. Conneely, M. Connolly, J. Cuddy, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, T. Mannion, C. Ní Fhatharta, S. Ó Tuairisg, M. Regan, T. Reilly, T. Welby . (12)

**IN AGHAIDH:** Cllr. W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, P. Hynes, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, J. Mc Donagh, T. Mc Hugh, M. Mullins, S. Ó Cuaig, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers (16)

**GAN VOTÁIL:** (0)

The Mayor declared the proposal defeated and a vote was then taken between Breda Keaveney and Mary Lane Heneaghan for the filling of the first female vacancy. The Fianna Fáil and Progressive Democrats members of the Council left the meeting before this vote was taken.

The result of the vote was as follows:-

**AR SON KEAVENEY:** Cllrs. W. Burke, S. Canney, S. Connaughton, D. Connolly, P. Feeney, F. Healy Eames, P. Hynes, C. Keaveney, S. Kyne, J. Mc Donagh, T. Mc Hugh, M. Mullins, S. O'Cuaig, J. Tierney, T. Walsh, B. Willers.(16)

**AR SON HENEAGHAN:** (0)

The Mayor declared Breda Keaveney appointed to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee.

**Second Vacancy**

It was proposed by Cllr. Mc Hugh, seconded by Cllr. Canney and agreed that Betsy Maloney be appointed to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee.

Accordingly the persons appointed to the County Galway Vocational Education Committee were as follows:

- (1) Breda Keaveney, Bushtown, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway
- (2) Betsy Maloney, Roy, Dunmore, Co. Galway
- (3) Pat Gilmore, Carrow House, Dublin Road, Tuam, Co. Galway
- (4) Peadar Ó Céidigh, Ugúil, Maigh Cuilinn, Co. na Gaillimhe

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Mr. Morgan Matthews, I.T Department gave a brief presentation and demonstration on the I.T. facilities available to members.

Mr. Cullen, Director of Services welcomed feedback from members on facilities provided and stated that further advances were being developed to provide a more efficient and effective service to members.

**AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2002 203**

Mr. Ger Mullarkey, Head of Finance submitted to the members for consideration the audited Annual Financial Statement for the Council for the year ended 31/12/2002 together with the Statutory Audit Report of the Local Government Auditor on the accounts.

The Annual Financial Statement and Statutory Audit Report were adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Mullins.

**DATES FOR MEETING**

**204**

Mr. Murphy outlined the requirement to fix dates for three meetings and following discussion it was agreed that:

- (A) Meeting on Planning issues and Galway County Electoral Area Programme of Actions would take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2004 at 3.30 p.m.
- (B) Statutory Budget Meeting would take place on the Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2004 at 2.30pm
- (C) December Monthly Meeting would take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2004 at 4.00pm or on completion of the Statutory Budget Meeting. It was agreed that a presentation by Dr. Niamh Clune on Resource Recovery Parks would be on the agenda for the Council meeting to be held in January 2005.

**MANAGERS BUSINESS**

**205**

**Rail Services**

Mr. Dawson said that he was pleased to announce new, improved rail services on the Galway - Dublin corridor with effect from 10<sup>th</sup> January 2005, including an early morning service operating from Athlone to Galway serving Ballinasloe, Woodlawn, Attymon, and Athenry and arriving in Galway at 8.20a.m. The Mayor and members welcomed this service and the other new services being provided and asked for public support for them.

**MAYORS BUSINESS**

**206**

**Water Supply Inis Oirr**

Comh. O'Tuairisg said that the water supply in Inis Oirr was contaminated and he asked the County Manager to make every effort to identify a new source on Inis Oirr as soon as possible. The County Manager said that he was aware of this problem and the efforts would be made to provide new storage and also a new source on the Island. Comh O'Tuairisg said that locals were willing to point out a new source to Council staff.



Speed Limits

Mr. Morgan said that the current speed limits had been comprehensively reviewed two years ago, but the adoption of the bye laws to implement the new speed limits arising out of the review was deferred pending the Government's decision on metrication. He said he had received legal advice that the new speed limits can only be implemented by erecting the Imperial signs and changing these to their metric equivalent. In order to achieve this it will be necessary for the Council to make bye laws which incorporate the revised speed limits at the December meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Keaveney, seconded by Cllr. Feeney and agreed that the Council would make bye laws which incorporate the revised speed limits at the December meeting of the Council.

Loughrea Bypass

Cllr. Hynes proposed that the Council include the N66 link road to the N6 in the Loughrea Bypass scheme. This was seconded by the Mayor and agreed. Mr. Morgan said that the Council had already asked to have this included in the scheme but it had been excluded by the NRA and in the event of it proceeding now it would be a totally separate scheme and a separate CPO for which the Council were unlikely to get the necessary funding.

Staff Matters.

Cllr. D. Connolly said he was concerned that five temporary workers would be leaving the Council employment on the 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 and that a temporary member of staff in the Ballinasloe Motor Tax office was also being let go. In reply Mr. Cullen said that the five temporary workers had been taken on for seasonal work and the length of their contract was known to them. However it has now been agreed that the employees concerned will be retained for a further contract period. In relation to the temporary staff member in Ballinasloe Motor Tax office, Mr. Cullen said that the employee concerned had been taken on for a contract period pending the filling of the vacancy in a permanent basis and this was now taking place.

In reply to Cllr. Cuddy's query regarding the dispute with outdoor staff, Mr. Cullen said that agreement had been reached with all grades except general operatives, and that there would be no loss of funds to the Council because of the fact that agreement had not been reached with them.

Signposts

In reply to Cllr. Reilly, Mr. Morgan said that he would examine the situation in relation to the provision of extra signposts at Marley Cross, Tuam

CONFERENCES

207

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

**“The Irish Association of Suicidology – 4<sup>th</sup> National Conference”, Galway Bay Hotel, Salthill. 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2004**

Cllr. M. Hoade

**"National Tourism Conference", Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare. 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2004**

Cllrs. M. Regan, P. Hynes

**"Confederation of European Councillors", Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2004**

Cllrs. T. Mannion, S O'Tuairisg, P. Hynes.

**"Colmcille Winter School", The Colmcille Heritage Centre, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February, 200**

Cllrs. T. Mannion, M. Fahy.

### **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION NO.18 – CLLR. S. CANNEY – HOUSING 208**

The following reply was given: -

- (a) "The housing estate has not been taken in charge
- (b) The Bond is still in place
- (c) Galway County Council will consider taking the estate in charge when requested to do so by the developer. The developer should apply on the application form which forms part of Galway County Council's Taking in Charge policy document".

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION NO.19 – CLLR. S. CANNEY – PLAYGROUNDS 209**

The following reply was given: -

"The site has been examined in the context of developing a play strategy for Tuam and a specific proposal will be drawn up for that area in question".

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION NO.20 – CLLR. S. CANNEY – HOUSING 210**

The following reply was given: -

"The ownership of the lands abutting the Sinking River in Dunmore has been established but any development of the walkway through these lands should be considered within the context of an overall Town Plan for Dunmore."

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION NO.21 – CLLR. C. CANNON – FINANCE 211**

The following reply was given: -

"This matter is being investigated and a full reply will issue as soon as possible".



**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.22 – CLLR. J. CUDDY – ENVIRONMENT**

212

The following reply was given: -

“The Council is currently finalising details in relation to the acquisition of land and wayleaves in relation to this scheme. The scheme is being bundled with a number of other schemes for the preparation of contract documents and a brief has been submitted to the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for approval to appoint consulting engineers in accordance with the brief”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.23 – CLLR. J. CUDDY – LIBRARY 213**

The following reply was given: -

“A Library Development Plan covering the period of 2004-2008 is currently under the preparation. The provision of a public library service in Claregalway is being considered as part of the preparation of that plan”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.24 – CLLR. J. CUDDY – HOUSING 214**

The following reply was given: -

“Galway County Council is at present in the process of reviewing the existing Speed Limit Bye-Laws.

The following revision is included in the new Draft Bye-Laws:

It is proposed to extend the existing 30 m.p.h. speed limit zone on the Old Galway-Dublin Road (R338) from a point 254m north-west of its junction with the old Claregalway road to a point 424 m north-west of the said junction”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.25 – CLLR. M. FAHY – WATER SCHEME 215**

The following reply was given: -

“I wish to advise that this scheme has been delayed because of the landslide at Derrybrien, which resulted in a localised land movement of about 15 kilometres upstream of Lough Cutra. Since then the Council has been monitoring water quality in Lough Cutra. The EPA are compiling a report on water quality at Lough Cutra, which is not yet available. The Consultants have also received a number of reports from Hibernian Wind Power dealing with the impacts of the Peat Slide on Flora and Fauna at Lough Cutra, Owendalluleegh River and on proposed Emergency and Stabilisation Works, which are currently being examined. The Consultants will be submitting a report to the Council in the next week on the impacts of the landslide on water quality of the lake but they will not be able to comment on proposed remediation works and mitigation measures to prevent further impact on the lake until Hibernian Wind report on their remediation works. Once all reports are assessed and no difficulties arise, the Preliminary Report can be finalised, for submission to the Department of

Environment, Heritage & Local Government. Work will then proceed on the Water Abstraction Order for this scheme”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.26– CLLR. M. FAHY – CARPARK 216**

The following reply was given: -

“There is no funding allocated to carry out safety measures at Kiltartan School during 2004. The provision of car parking facilities is a matter for the Board of Management and the Department of Education.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.27– CLLR. M. FAHY – ROAD SIGNS 217**

The following reply was given: -

“Double yellow lines in Gort Town will be reviewed under the Gort Traffic Plan and submissions can be made on same. The Gort Traffic Management Plan will be finalised in early 2005. The location is in a 30 mph zone. The community warden who does other traffic and casual trading duties on Fridays in Gort, does not have the authority to stop vehicles on a public road.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.28– CLLR. J. JOYCE – WATER 218**

The following reply was given: -

“The Council will arrange to have a water tap provided at this cemetery”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.29– CLLR. J. JOYCE – WATER 219**

The following reply was given: -

“The Council will arrange to have a water tap provided at this cemetery”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.30 CLLR. J. JOYCE – ROADS 220**

The following reply was given: -

“There is no history of accidents at this location. It is not considered a priority for widening but Galway County Council will continue to monitor the situation.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.31– CLLR. J. MC DONAGH – ROADS 221**

The following reply was given: -

“The number of road accidents at Cregmore Bridge was 1 in the past ten years and this was a rear end collision on 11/11/2000. This location would not qualify for the Low Cost Accident Scheme. There may well be more than this one accident however none of them have been reported to the Gardaí.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.32– CLLR.J MC DONAGH– ROADS 222**

The following reply was given: -



"This proposal will be considered for inclusion in the 2005 Roadworks Programme if resources permit."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.33– CLLR. J. JOYCE – ROADS**

**223**

The following reply was given: -

"Funding is being sought to have the L3102 Cregmore Cross to Cahernashilleeny section of road reconstructed in 2005."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.34– CLLR. C NI FHATHARTA – SWIMMING POOLS**

**224**

The following reply was given: -

Tá Údarás Áitiúla páirteach i soláthar Linn Snámha de réir clár linn snámha Údarás Áitiúil an Roinn Ealaíne, Spóirt agus Turasoireachta, áit go dtugann an Roinn uasdheontas de €3.8milliún, agus an chuid eile den chostas á sholáthar ag an Údarás Áitiúil nó an pobal atá freastal á dhéanamh orthu nó comhcheangal den dá cheann.

Tá sé tugtha le fios ag an Roinn Ealaíne, Spóirt agus Turasoireacht go bhfuil an clár seo dúnta d'iarratais nua faoi láthair de bharr an uimhir iarratais atá ar lámh. Sa gcás go n-osclaíonn an Roinn an clár seo arís caithfear critéir áirithe a shásamh maidir le dobharcheantar agus leathadh tíreolaíochta a leithéidí d'áiseanna sa réigiún. Bheadh tionscnamh den chineál seo ag brath ar cheadú ón Roinn ag gach stáid go sonrach:

- a) Staidéar Féidearthachta/Réamhthuirisc
- b) Doiciméid Tairisceana/Conartha
- d) Moladh Tairisceana/ Bronnadh Conartha

Mar chéad chéim ar an moladh seo a chuir chun cinn moltar go ndéanfaí staidéar féidearthachta. Dhéanfaidh Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe machnamh ar chabhrú le costas an staidéar féidearthachta seo (ag glacadh leis go mbeadh An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ag teacht ar bord freisin).

Mar eolas duit ar mheastachán gharbh is é an costas atá i gceist le soláthar linn snámha/ionad spóirt faoi láthair ná €8milliún agus de bharr srianta airgeadais, bheadh sé dodhéanta don Chomhairle an difríocht idir an méid sin agus an deontas atá ar fáil (dá gceadófaí é) ón Roinn Ealaíne, Spóirt agus Turasoireachta a mhaoiniú.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.35 – CLLR. C NI FHATHARTA – ROADS**

**225**

The following reply was given: -

"Tá dromchla an bhóthair measartha faoi láthair cé go bhfuil an bóthar caol. Tá bóithre eile sa Droim atá níos riachtanaí do chóiriú ná an ceann luaite sa bhfógra rúin seo agus bheadh tosaoíocht achu maidir le haon mhaoiniú a mbeidh ar fáil an bliain seo chugainn. Leanfaidh muid orainn ag cothabháil an bhóthair seo nó go bhfuil maoiniú curtha ar fáil do obair dheisiúcháin/leathnú. Tá oibreacha beartaithe don phríomh bhóthar R374 freisin, faoi Chlár Bóithre Straitéiseacha Roinn na Gaeltachta."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.36 – CLLR. C NI FHATHARTA – WATER**

226

The following reply was given: -

“Tá innealtóir comhairleach an scéim ag déanamh scrúdú ar na tairiscintí faoi láthair agus tá an Chomhairle ag feitheamh leis an moladh uathu”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.37– COMH. O’ TUAIRISG– ELECTIONS**

227

The following reply was given: -

Tá socráithe vótála i gcomhair toghcháin Dála agus Uachtaránachta agus Reifrinn mar fhreagracht ar Chláraitheoir an Chontae atá mar cheann comhairimh do na toghcháin sin. Is é an Ceann Comhairimh Áitiúil é freisin do Thoghcháin Pharlaimint na hEorpa agus ó tharla go dtionóltar iad ar an lá céanna le toghcháin an Chomhairle Contae is é atá freagrach do na socráithe vótála dóibh seo beirt. Maidir le toghcháin Údarás na Gaeltachta níl aon chinneadh déanta maidir le cén uair a thionólfar vótáil ar na hOileáin. Déanfar a leithéid de chinneach níos gaire do lá an toghcháin”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.38– CLLR. B.WILLERS – HOUSING 228**

The following reply was given: -

“Galway County Council will consider taking estates in charge when requested to do so by developers. Developers should apply to have estates taken in charge on the application form which forms part of the County Council’s Taking in Charge policy document. The Roads, Services and open spaces remain in the ownership of the developer until taken in charge by Galway County Council and until such time are the responsibility of the developer”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.39– CLLR. B. WILLERS – ROADS 229**

The following reply was given: -

“The front boundary setback required by planning permission for a development adjoining the school site (Planning Ref. No. 03/5263) will provide the necessary increased visibility for motorists and pedestrians at this location.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.40 – CLLR. B. WILLERS – LIBRARY 230**

The following reply was given: -

“The Library Service is currently seeking to source suitable books in the Portuguese language which would be of interest to both children and adults. The Library Service is aware that over 500 people from Brazil are living in the Gort area.

Provision is being made in the estimates for a bookfund which would allow the upgrading of the book stock in Gort Library.



Internet PCs in public libraries are funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Gort Library will be included in an application by Galway County Council to the Department which will be seeking an improvement in our Internet provision”.

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.41 – CLLR. S. KYNE – ROADS 231**

The following reply was given: -

“Galway County Council is at present in the process of reviewing the existing Speed Limit Bye-Laws. The following revision is included in the new Draft Bye-Laws. It is proposed to extend the existing 30 m.p.h. speed limit zone in Moycullen on the Spiddal Road (LP 1322) from its current point of 46m from its junction with the Galway Clifden Road to a point 430m from the said junction.”

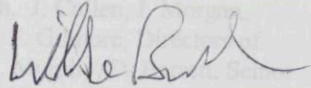
**NOTICE OF MOTION NO.42 – CLLR. S. KYNE– ROADS 232**

The following reply was given: -

“The provision of a sign at this location will be investigated.”

***CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNÍÚ ANSIN***

Submitted, Approved & Signed



20.12.04

Date

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following:

The Kenny Family, Oatshoore, Liscannock, Ballinacorney, Co. Galway

Ms. Mary Walsh, Carrigrohane Road, Oranmore, Co. Galway.