

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL,
GALWAY ON MONDAY, 8th JULY, 2002**

CATHAOIRLEACH

Mayor M. Regan
Mayor P. O'Sullivan

ILATHAIR FRESIN

Baill:

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

Oifighe:

Messrs. D.O'Donoghue, County Manager
T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, P. Ridge, J. Morgan, F. Dawson Directors of Services, Mr. E. Lusby, Head of Finance, Mr. T. Donoghue, Law Agent, Messrs. T. Murphy, D. Barrett, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officers, L. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, R. Mitchell, Assistant Engineer, Ms. M. Killoran-Coyne, Senior Staff Officer, R.O'Boyle, C. Ryan, Staff Officers, and A. Kelly, Clerical Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR YEAR 2002/2003

1636

Cllr. Regan, outgoing Mayor was in the Chair.

He thanked the County Manager, Councillors and Staff of the Council for their assistance during the year. He referred to the progress made on infrastructural projects in the county such as the Gas Line, the ESB Power Line, major roadworks and Water and Sewerage schemes.

He said that he was delighted to have been invited to officially open a number of Branch Libraries during the year. The Mayor referred to the introduction of the Community Warden Scheme as a further indication of the Councils commitment to improving its standard of service and the quality of life of the citizens of the county.

He referred to the honour of becoming first Mayor of the County and he thanked Mr. Al Hayes who enhanced his position by providing him with a "Mayoral Car" for his term of office. He said it was a great honour also to be able to host the first county "Mayoral Ball" which proved to be a great success. He thanked all those who sponsored prizes and all those who attended. He then presented Cheques from the proceeds of the Mayoral Ball to representatives of a number of charities.

The Members paid tribute to Cllr. Regan for his successful year as Cathairleach/Mayor and complimented him on the excellent way he represented the Council at events both inside and outside the county. They congratulated him on being the first Mayor of the County and also on the success of the Mayoral Ball.

The County Manager thanked Cllr. Regan for his contribution to the Office of Cathairleach/Mayor and said that he had carried out his duties in an effective and efficient manner. He also complimented him on the success of the Mayoral Ball and wished him and his wife and family the very best in the future.

The outgoing Mayor asked for nominations for the position of Mayor of the County of Galway.

It was proposed by Cllr. Callanan and seconded by Cllr. Joyce that Cllr. O' Sullivan be elected Mayor

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Burke that Cllr. J. McClearn be elected Mayor. A vote was taken on these proposals which resulted as follows:-

For Cllr. O'Sullivan

Deps. J. Callanan, N. Grealish, P. McHugh, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, Cllrs. P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, M. Regan, S. Walsh. (18)

For Cllr. McClearn

Deps. P. Connaughton, Sen. J. McDonagh Cllrs. U. Burke, S. Gavin, J.J. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. P. O'Foighil, Cllr. T. Walsh. (10)

Abstained

Cllr. P. Hynes. (1)

Cllr. O'Sullivan was then declared elected Mayor of the County of Galway for 2002/2003 and he was invested with the Chain of Office.

CLLR. O'SULLIVAN THEN TOOK THE CHAIR.

1637

Cllr. O'Sullivan thanked his fellow Councillors who elected him Mayor and said he was honoured to take up the position.. He also thanked the Board of Management of St. Catherine's National School in Aughrim for allowing him to take the year off school, so that he could carry out the duties of Mayor to the high standard which the role demands. He thanked his wife and family for their continued support. He said he realised that everything cannot be done at once, but some things can be done now. The County Development Plan is presently being prepared and the Council have the chance to redress some of the imbalances that have occurred in our County. He said that some areas have thrived and prospered while other areas unfortunately have been left behind. He said the Council must ensure that rural parts of the County are given the opportunity to develop. He looked forward to working in close co-operation with the Mayor of the City, Cllr.Val Hanley.

The Members congratulated Cllr. O'Sullivan on his appointment as Mayor and wished him well during his term of Office. The County Manager congratulated Cllr. O'Sullivan on behalf of the Staff.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR YEAR 2002/2003.

1638

It was proposed by Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion that Cllr Joyce be elected Deputy Mayor, as there was no other candidate proposed, the Mayor declared Cllr. Joyce elected as Deputy Mayor of the County of Galway for the year 2002/2003. Cllr. Joyce congratulated Cllr. O'Sullivan on being elected Mayor and said that it would be an honour to work with him during the coming year.

NOMINATION OF 2 MEMBERS TO THE ATHENRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL TRUST LTD.

1639

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Burke and agreed that Cllr. Cunningham and Cllr. McClearn be elected to the Athenry Community Council Trust Ltd.,

The persons nominated to the Athenry Community Council Trust Ltd., are as follows:-

- (1) Cllr. Cunningham, Galway Road, Gort, Co. Galway.
- (2) Cllr. McClearn, Kilimor, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

NOMINATION OF 2 MEMBERS TO THE ATHENRY HERITAGE & TOURISM CO. LTD.,

1640

It was proposed by Cllr. Regan, seconded by Dep. Callanan and agreed that Cllr. Loughnane and Cllr Hynes be elected to the Athenry Heritage & Tourism Co. Ltd.,

The persons nominated to the Athenry Heritage & Tourism Co. Ltd., are as follows:

- (1) Cllr. Loughnane, Dunsandle, Kiltulla, Co. Galway.
- (2) Cllr. Hynes, Gort Road, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved & Signed

P. Sullivan

23/9/02

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
HELD AT CURRAGH WEST GOLF CLUB, WOODFORD
ROAD, LOUGHREA ON FRIDAY 21ST JUNE, 2002.**

CATHAOIRLEACH: Mayor M. Regan.

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Deps. J. Callanan, P. Connaughton, P. McHugh, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O'Neachtain, Cllrs. P. O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Rabbitt, S. Walsh.

Oifigigh: D. O'Donoghue, County Manager, T. Kavanagh, J. Morgan, F. Gilmore, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, M. Dolly, Senior Engineer, D. Barrett, T. Murphy, Senior Executive Officers, G. Healy, Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1610

The Mayor expressed his sincere sympathy to Mrs. Bridie Brennan and her family on the death of Joe Brennan, former Chairman of Galway County Council.

The Members paid tribute to the late Joe Brennan, stating that he was a hard-working and honourable man who served the people of Ballinasloe with distinction. Joe was also a deeply spiritual person who had a love for life and a great interest in politics. He was a wonderful father and teacher and he was unselfish in his commitment to voluntary work and helping the needy in our society.

The County Manager said that Joe Brennan gave great commitment and dedication to his role as Councillor and he referred to his involvement in many community organisations and initiatives. On behalf of the staff, he extended his sympathy to Mrs. Bridie Brennan and her family.

The meeting was then adjourned for ten minutes.

MINUTES

1611

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting, held on the 27th May 2002, were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Dep. Callanan seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

REPORTS

1612

The Report of the Cultural & General Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 23rd May 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins seconded by Cllr. Mannion.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on the 14th May 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 17th April 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. O'Neachtain seconded by An Comh. Ní Fhatharta.

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

1613

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

Gort Area

Road commencing at junction with Co. Rd. L.S. 8506 and extending south for a distance of 132 metres in the Townland of Ashfield Demesne.

ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

1614

Mr. Murphy referred to the Draft Standing Orders and letter dated 11th June 2002, which had been circulated to members. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan, seconded by Mayor Regan and agreed that Standing Order No. 61 be amended to read as follows:

“Casual Vacancy

61. A Casual Vacancy shall be filled by resolution of the Council in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Where the person causing the casual vacancy was a member of a registered political party at the time of his / her election or co-option the casual vacancy shall be filled by a person nominated by the same party. This requirement stands whether or not the political status of the member who caused the casual vacancy had changed since the date of his or her election or co-option.

Comh. O'Neachtain thanked the Members and staff for their kind words of congratulations and good wishes and stated that he would work to the best of his ability for his constituents and all of Connaught/Ulster. His only regret was that this was his last Meeting as a Member of Galway County Council but he stated that he will keep in contact as much as possible.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS

1620

The Manager stated that it is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2001 that a Meetings Administrator be appointed by the Council and Mr. Tony Murphy, Senior Executive Officer, was so appointed.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 11 – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM –
ROADS**

1621

The following reply was given: -

“A report has been prepared on the cost of these works. However, they are not included in the programme of works for the current year.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 12 – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM –
ROADS**

1622

The following reply was given: -

“This road is not on the surface dressing programme 2002. Routine maintenance will be carried out during 2002.”

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 13 – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM –
BURIAL GROUNDS**

1623

The following reply was given: -

“The Council has made a further submission to Duchás with regard to the process of providing an extension to the Drumacoo Burial Ground.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 14 – CLLR. M. FAHY – ROADS

1624

The following reply was given: -

“This road is not on the surface dressing programme 2002. Routine maintenance will be carried out in the coming weeks.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 15 – CLLR. M. FAHY – ROADS

1625

The following reply was given: -

"This road is not on the surfacing programme for 2002. Routine maintenance will be carried out over the next few weeks."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 – CLLR. M. FAHY –
IMPROVEMENT WORKS**

1626

The following reply was given: -

"A report on these proposed works will be prepared for the next meeting."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 – CLLR. J. JOYCE – HOUSING

1627

The following reply was given: -

"Plans are now being prepared for the provision of an extension to a dwelling house at the above location as the necessary works exceed the maximum grant available under Disabled Person Grant."

"It is hoped to have works commenced within the next two to three months."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 18 – CLLR. J. JOYCE – ROAD
RESTORATION**

1628

The following reply was given: -

"As part of this scheme IR£44,000 has been allocated for surface restoration of the pipe trenches. A significant proportion of this work remains to be done but work will commence within the next two weeks. This sum does not allow for any work to be done outside of the trench width. Damage has occurred to the roads outside of the trench lines along road edges due to narrowing of the traffic lanes due to pipe laying and from the hydraulic stays of excavation equipment used for excavation. This work has also accelerated deterioration of the road surface where it was deemed to be of satisfactory condition."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 19 – DEP. J. CALLANAN & CLLR.
M. LOUGHNANE – SWIMMING POOLS**

1629

The following reply was given: -

"As you are aware, a Swimming Pool Committee was established in Loughrea a number of years ago with regard to the provision of a Swimming Pool. Grant funding for Swimming Pool Projects is available from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism subject to a maximum of £3,000,000M (€3,809,214.24M) or 80% of the cost. Grant funding can only be obtained if the application by the project promoters, in this case the Loughrea Swimming Pool and Amenity Development Committee, is routed through the local authority, who must satisfy themselves about the viability of the

Project and the arrangements for its operation and management, before the application for grant funding can proceed.

The Swimming Pool Committee have been endeavouring to find a suitable site for the swimming pool. On behalf of the Committee, the Council wrote to the V.E.C. requesting that a particular site be made available and a reply is awaited. When a suitable site has been identified, a preliminary report may be prepared which will be submitted to the Department for approval. Should the V.E.C. site not become available, then the Committee will have to consider finding an alternative, in order for the Project to advance."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 20 – CLLR. J. J. MANNION – 1630
SANITARY SERVICES**

The following reply was given: -

"The Council is currently examining this matter and will make recommendations in relation to extra treatment capacity the implementation of which will be subject to relevant extra funding being made available."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 21 – CLLR. J. MCCLEARN – 1631
LIGHTING**

The following reply was given: -

"There is no provision in the current traffic route lighting programme for this project. The expense involved in the provision of traffic route lighting at this location would be prohibitive as it would require a specific design by the E.S.B. as the bridge opens to boat traffic."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 22 – CLLR. MCCLEARN – TRAFFIC 1632
CALMING MEASURES**

The following reply was given: -

"A report will be prepared on this matter for the next meeting of the Council."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 23 – SEN. J. MCDONAGH – TRAFFIC 1633
CALMING MEASURES**

The following reply was given: -

"It is not the policy of Galway County Council to use rumble strips in residential areas."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – SEN. J. MCDONAGH – SIGNS 1634

The following reply was given: -

“Galway County Council will carry out a full survey of the existing signage at this junction.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – CLLR. T. RABBITTE – MAINTANCE WORKS 1635

The following reply was given: -

“The tower in question has been out of use for a number of years and there are no funds available to paint the tower.”

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIÚ ANSIN

Submitted, Approved & Signed

Mick Regan

29/7/02

Date

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY 27th MAY, 2002.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Mayor M. Regan.

ILATHAIR FREISIN:

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

Oifigigh: Messrs. T. Kavanagh, Deputy Co. Manager, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, T. Murphy, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officers, J. Eising, L. Gavin, Senior Engineers, L. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, J. McGuirk, Executive Engineer, Ms. E. Keaveney, Administrative Officer, Ms. G. Healy, Ms. M. Barnicle, Staff Officers, Ms. M. Bourke, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

The Mayor congratulated the successful candidates in the General Election of 17th May, 2002 stating that he believed that Deps. Callanan, Grealish, McHugh and Connaughton would represent County Galway well in the Dáil. He said that all the unsuccessful candidates had shown strength of character in putting their names forward for election.

All of the Councillors then joined in congratulating the successful candidates. Congratulations were also extended to the other successful candidates in the Galway East and Galway West constituencies.

Tributes were paid to the outgoing Deputy, Cllr. Ulick Burke and hopes were expressed that he would contest and win a seat in the Seanad. Tributes were also paid to Dep. Kitt who was unsuccessful in the election and congratulations were extended to Cllr. S. Walsh on performing well in the election. Sen. McDonagh stated that he would not be contesting the Seanad Elections and appealed to all the Councillors to support any of their colleagues who put their name forward for these elections.

Deps. Callanan, Grealish and McHugh thanked the Members for their words of congratulations and each stated that they would do their best to promote the interests of their constituents in the Dáil.

MINUTES

1574

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 25th March, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. Gavin.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 8th April, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Hoade .

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

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 22nd April, 2002 were approved by the Council and signed by the Mayor on the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. K. Quinn.

REPORTS

1575

The Report of the Planning & Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 12th April, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Comh. O'Neachtain, seconded by Sen. McDonagh.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on the 19th April, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. K. Quinn, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh.

The Report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on the 19th April, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Rabbitt, seconded by Cllr. Hoade.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 1st May, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. T. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Mullins.

The Report of the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on the 25th March, 2002 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham.

TO CONSIDER SUBMISSIONS/OBSERVATIONS

1576

**RECEIVED ON THE MATERIAL
ALTERATIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE LOUGHREA
TOWN DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Mr. L. Kavanagh referred to his Report dated 22nd May 2002, which had been circulated in advance. He explained that the issues remaining to be considered in connection with the Loughrea Draft Plan were: (a)lands at Cosmona adjacent to Carmelite Convent, Bullawn Road, (b)lands owned by Holohan; (c)lands owned by Scully and (d)lands owned by Cusack. In relation to the lands at Cosmona adjacent to the Carmelite Convent, he said the Council had reviewed a letter dated 23rd May 2002 from A&L Goodbody Solicitors, International Financial Services Centre, North Wall Quay, Dublin1 and a copy had been circulated to each Councillor at the meeting.

Referring to the letter dated 23rd May 2002, from A&L Goodbody Solicitors, Cllr. Joyce stated that legal opinion would be needed before the Council could proceed on the matter. The Deputy County Manager stated that he had discussed the letter with the Council's Law Agent and his advice was that the Council should be guided by the recommendation of the planners. Cllr. McClearn stated that the Loughrea Plan had been held up for a considerable time and should not be delayed further. The zoning of these lands had been dealt with by the Area Committee and it had been unanimously agreed that the site should remain zoned agricultural. Cllr. Burke referred to a previous letter from another firm of solicitors, which had been sent to each Councillor in the Loughrea Area, prior to consideration of this matter at an Area Meeting, and when investigated by him it was discovered that the author of the letter had a vested interest in the site. He said it was for the Councillors to make their decision on this site in a democratic way. Cllr. Cunningham said that as they were in receipt of a legal document now, they should obtain legal advice before proceeding. Cllr. Hynes said that he would stand by the decision of the Area Committee, regardless of any Solicitors letter. Cllr. Loughnane said the Carmelite Nuns were an Enclosed Order who needed silence and were part of the fabric of life in Loughrea for 300 years.

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Connolly and agreed to defer consideration of this and the other remaining issues with regard to Loughrea Town Draft Development Plan to the next Council Meeting pending written legal advice on the letter dated 23rd May, 2002 from A & L Goodbody. It was agreed that the Council's Law Agent should attend this meeting also.

**REPORT OF THE LOUGHREA AREA
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE
1ST MAY, 2002 FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION**

1577

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

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE COUNTY 1578
DEVELOPMENT PLAN: -
PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 32 NO. DETACHED
HOUSES, 16 NO. SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES AND 8 NO.
TOWNHOUSES IN THE TOWNLAND OF PORTUMNA.**

Planning Reference no. 01/3485 Applicant: Mr. Eugene McEntee

Mr. Comer gave details of the application referring to report dated 17th May 2002, which had been circulated in advance.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Permission for the construction of 32 no. detached houses, 16 semi-detached houses and 8 townhouses in the townland of Portumna.

LOCATION: The site of the proposal is located in Portumna town on the northern outskirts and is located within the speed limits.

ZONING: The site is currently zoned for agricultural use in the County Development Plan's land use and development control objectives may for Portumna (May No.8).

PLANNING HISTORY: 00/3210^A → A. Clasby – granted approval for 6 no. semi-detached 2-storey houses on 23rd October 2000.

99/3568^A → J. Dillon-granted outline permission for 6 no. houses and new entrance on 20th March 2002.

01/2600^A → Kenny Plastering Services – granted permission for the construction of 10 no. semi-detached 2 storey dwellinghouses at St. Brigid's Terrace.

01/1777^A → J. Madden – has applied for permission for construction of a dwellinghouse. Further information has been requested on this application.

LA:00 → (County Council development adjacent).

LA:01 → (County Council development adjacent).

95/2173 → J. Duddy – granted permission for extension to kitchen and also to construct a garage and fuel shed.

ASSESSMENT The proposed development consists of 32 no. detached houses, 16 semi-detached houses and 8 townhouses. The site size is 8.3 hectares. Density is 6.7 houses per acre (16.7 per hectare). The site is currently used for agricultural purposes and it adjoins an existing housing estate. The proposed development is in compliance with the County Development Plan's "Guidelines and Standards for residential development" (Appendix F of the County Development Plan). Reports were received by the Planning Authority from Sanitary Services, Road Design and Duchas. Further information was requested by the County Council and was satisfactorily replied to. A revised layout was submitted to the Planning Authority on 23rd January 2002, based on the Planning Authority's concerns. The revised layout included a crèche and a civic amenity site. The proposal for a housing development on agriculturally zoned lands was originally put forward by the developer due to the fact that residentially zoned lands in Portumna had been used up and because of the sites proximity to adjoining housing developments. A Zoning Plan for Portumna has not been prepared in the new draft County Development Plan, however, the settlement strategy for East

Galway identifies Portumna as a large settlement with a total projected household increase in the area over the Plan period as 60% or 148 residential units. This amounts to a household growth rate of 32% in Portumna over the Plan period.

OBJECTIONS: No objections to this planning application have been received.

RECOMMENDATION: Taking into consideration the shortage of undeveloped residentially zoned lands in Portumna and the draft County Development Plan (Settlement Strategy), a grant of permission is recommended. A crèche shall be included within the development by condition and shall be the subject of a separate planning application.

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

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 16th April 2002 and the notice invited members of the public to submit representations or objections. None were submitted.

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

The latest date for a decision on this application is 10th June 2002.

Cllr. Burke proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. Eugene McEntee, for permission for the construction of 32 no. detached houses, 16 semi-detached houses and 8 townhouses in the townland of Portumna, and having considered the Report dated 17th May 2002, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26 (3) of Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963, as amended by Section 39 (d) of Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act, 1991 hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application.

Cllr. Cunningham seconded this proposal. A vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

AR SON: *Deps. Callanan, Grealish, P. McHugh, Cllrs. Burke, Connolly, Conneely, Cunningham, Gavin, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, Loughnane, T. Mannion, McClearn, T. McHugh, O'Sullivan, K. Quinn, S. Quinn, Rabbitt, Regan, T. Walsh, Comh. Ni Fhatharta, O'Neachtain. (23)*

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTAIL: (0)

The Mayor declared the resolution carried.

FIX DATE FOR ANNUAL MEETING 1579

On the proposal of Dep. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Loughnane, it was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of the Council on the 8th July, 2002.

The Mayor informed the meeting that it was proposed to hold the next Monthly Meeting of the Council on 24th June, 2002 at The Curragh West Golf Club, Woodford Road, Loughrea starting at 3.00 p.m. followed by Dinner at 5.00 p.m. and a Golf Competition starting at approximately 6.00 p.m.

TO APPROVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STAFFING PROPOSALS 1580

Mr. Cullen referred to report dated 22nd May, 2002, which had been circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Dep. Grealish the Information Technology Staffing proposals were approved.

TO APPROVE OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION AND BORROWING FACILITY 1581

Mr. Lusby outlined the increasing demands on cashflow, caused by the level of expenditure, particularly on Water and Sewerage Projects and Road Improvement Schemes which, due to the state grant recoupment process whereby recoupment followed expenditure, required an increase in the approved overdraft accommodation level.

It was proposed by Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Dep. Grealish, and resolved that: -

- (i) the Council hereby approve overdraft accommodation to a maximum of €20,000,000 for the six month period from 1st July, 2002 to 31st December, 2002 subject to the sanction of the Minister for the Environment and Local Government.
- (ii) The overdraft accommodation, approved for period 1st January, 2002 to 30th June, 2002 be revised from €12,697,380 to €20,000,000 subject to the sanction of the Minister for the Environment and Local Government.

Mr. Lusby informed the Council that financial services, including investment and both long and short term borrowing, were available to the Council from the National Treasury Management Agency and that transactions would be conducted by either the County Manager or Head of Finance, as required, and the Council agreed with this process.

TO APPROVE DRAFT SLUDGE MANAGEMENT PLAN 1582

On the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Dep. McHugh, it was agreed that this item would be deferred and, in the meantime, a presentation of the Draft Sludge Management Plan be made to the Tuam Town Council and the Killalooity Residents.

MANAGER'S BUSINESS 1583

Mr. Murphy said that the Council has received grants totalling €1.753 M from An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht, Gaeltachta agus Oileán towards the improvement of Strategic Gaeltacht Roads. In reply to Comh. O'Neachtain, Mr. Morgan said that the details of these grants would be circulated to the members in a few days.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS 1584

Traffic Safety

Dep. McHugh asked why ramps were not being used more widely by the Council with a view to reducing speeding and he requested a report on this issue.

Dep. Grealish asked if "Children at Play" signs could be provided out of Councillors Notice of Motion money. The Deputy County Manager said that the matter would be investigated and a report submitted to the Council.

In reply to Cllr. Rabbitt, Mr. Morgan said that a review of the speed limits for National Roads had been sent to the N.R.A. for their approval and a reply was awaited from the Gardai in relation to Non-National Roads.

Water Quality

Referring to the recent unsatisfactory report regarding the quality of sea water at An Cnoc, Indreabhan, An Comh O'Neachtain asked for details of the report and it was agreed to submit same.

Planning Fees

Cllr. Loughnane referred to copies of motions which have been passed by Fingal County Council and which had been circulated to the members condemning "the imposition of the €20 planning fee to be paid by all individuals including Councillors in respect of submissions to the Council on planning applications." He said that he agreed with these motions and felt that it was most unfair to charge Councillors for making written submissions on planning applications. The Deputy County Manager said he would investigate the matter.

Creggs Sewerage Scheme

The Mayor said that he had been informed by the Deputy County Manager that Creggs Sewerage Scheme was progressing to planning stage.

Mayoral Ball

The Mayor informed the meeting that a Mayoral Ball to provide funding for a number of charities in the county was taking place on 27th June, 2002 in The Meadow Court Hotel, Loughrea and he asked that it be supported.

CONFERENCES

1585

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

Local Government Reform 1st – 2nd March, 2002

Cllr. P. Hynes.

Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly 24th – 25th May, 2002

Cllr. T. Rabbitt.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 10 – CLLR. U. BURKE – SANITARY SERVICES 1586

The following reply was given: -

“The Council is currently assessing this matter and until this assessment is completed it will not be possible to confirm whether the Council will take this estate in charge”.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 11 – CLLR. U. BURKE – HOUSING 1587

The following reply was given: -

“The development is currently being examined with a view to the preparation of a report as to its suitability for taking in charge.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 12 – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM – ROADS 1588

The following reply was given: -

“Work will be carried out on this road in the coming weeks.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 13 – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM – 1589

ROADS

The following reply was given: -

"The road from N66 to the entrance of the residence is a public road. Routine maintenance will be carried out on this road over the coming weeks."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 14 – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM – ROADS 1590

The following reply was given: -

"Routine maintenance will be carried out on the above over the coming weeks."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 15 – CLLR. M. FAHY – BURIAL GROUNDS 1591

The following reply was given: -

"The position regarding the development of a burial ground in Drumacoo has not altered. The proposed extension is in an area of high archaeological potential and Duchas is opposed to the development of the land for use as a burial ground".

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 – CLLR. M. FAHY – ROADS 1592

The following reply was given: -

"Works will be carried out where possible at this location during 2002."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 – CLLR. M. FAHY – TRAFFIC LIGHTS 1593

The following reply was given: -

"This is being investigated and funding has been sought from the National Roads Authority."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 18 – CLLR. J. JOYCE – ROADS 1594

The following reply was given: -

"Some minor repair work will be carried out this year and an assessment will be carried out for consideration in the context of the next year's programme."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 19 – CLLR. J. JOYCE – SPEED RAMPS 1595

The following reply was given: -

“The provision of speed ramps to control speeding is not desirable due to their impact on emergency vehicles. The local gardai should be notified of the occurrence of speeding at this location.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 20 – CLLR. J. JOYCE – FLOODING 1596

The following reply was given: -

“The flooding at this location is caused by surface water runoff from lands across the public road from Mr. Casey’s house. The situation is exacerbated by the low level of the house in relation to the road. The Council will install a road crossing at this location together with gulleys if the land owners will connect this pipeline to the drain in their land.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 21 – CLLR. J.J. MANNION – BURIAL GROUNDS 1597

The following reply was given: -

“The Council will liaise with the owner of lands adjacent to the Moyard Burial Ground to determine if these lands are available for sale”.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 22 – SEN. MCDONAGH & CLLR. RABBITTE – ROADS 1598

The following reply was given: -

“A recommendation will be put before the Council on this matter as soon as possible.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 24 – COMH. C. NI FHARTHARTA – FOOTPATHS 1599

The following reply was given: -

“Déanfar athbhreithniú maidir le comharthaí sa láthair seo ach níl aon airgid ar fáil chun a thuilleadh oibre a dhéanamh.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 25 – COMH. C. NI FHARTHARTA – LAKES 1600

The following reply was given: -

"Iarradh ar an innealtóir ceantair tuairisc faoi stáid an locha agus eolas faoi úinéireacht dhlíthiúil an locha a chur ar fáil".

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 26 – COMH. C. NI FHARTHARTA – 1601
ROADS**

The following reply was given: -

"Déanfar an scrudú seo."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 27 – COMH. S. O NEACHTAIN – 1602
ROADS**

The following reply was given: -

"This will be investigated and a report prepared in the matter."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 28 – COMH. S. O NEACHTAIN – 1603
ROADS**

The following reply was given: -

"This refers to the Kylebroughlan Junction which is quite blind on the Galway side. It is on the National route and would require funding and approval from the N.R.A. to carry out works on the junction. This matter will be investigated."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 29 – COMH. S. O NEACHTAIN – 1604
ROADS**

The following reply was given: -

"The road in question has a narrow section just at its access on to the R336. The County Council will investigate this situation but as of now there are no funds available to carry out work at this location."

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 30 – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN – 1605
CARPARK**

The following reply was given: -

"The carpark already in situ at this location is adequate for the requirements of the Interpretative Centre. The proposed new N.6 will be a limited access roadway and

no exit will be located at this location. Therefore this new road will have no impact on current traffic volumes.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 31 – CLLR. P. O' SULLIVAN – LIBRARY 1606

The following reply was given: -

"The possibility of providing a more suitable building for the Ballinasloe Library has been under consideration for several years. There is a building under consideration at the moment. This possibility will be explored and a decision taken in the context of the Libraries development programme and available funding."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 32 – CLLR. P. O'SULLIVAN – SIGNS 1607

The following reply was given: -

"This work was recently completed."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 33 – CLLR. T. RABBITTE – SPEED LIMITS 1608

The following reply was given: -

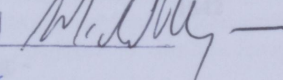
"This alteration in the speed limit is included in the current review which will be put before the members this summer."

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 34 – CLLR. T. RABBITTE – LITTER 1609

The following reply was given: -

"The Area Engineer for Oranmore is currently in the process of organising a clean-up of the seashore adjacent to Renville. Two clean-ups of that area have already being carried out this year. It appears that refuse and debris are being washed up by the tides on a regular basis.

The Council will consider the placing of litter bins in Renville Park".

Submitted, Approved & Signed 

21/6/02
Date

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIÚ ANSIN