

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF STATUTORY ESTIMATES MEETING OF  
GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT  
ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY  
ON MONDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2001.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. M. Regan

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

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

**Oifigigh:**

Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, J. Morgan, F. Gilmore, P. Ridge, F. Dawson, T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, T. Connell, Senior Executive Officer, D. Barrett, Senior Executive Officer, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. M. Jordan, Administrative Officer, Mr. E. Cannon, A/Administrative Officer, C. MacAodhaBhui, Oifigeach Gaeilge, Ms. M. Bourke, Assistant Staff Officer.

**ESTIMATES 2002**

**1363**

The County Manager gave a summary of the contents of the Estimates as contained in the Book of Estimates 2002, a copy of which was circulated to each member on 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2001. He explained that the estimates had been prepared on the basis of a Local Government Fund allocation of £18,911,905, an increase of 8% on last years allocation, but that the Council had since been notified by the Department of Environment and Local Government that the actual allocation from the Local Government Fund would be £18,734,830.75, an increase of 7%. In total 74.97% of revenue income comes from state grants.

The Minister for the Environment and Local Government has directed that the rate in the pound for the year 2002 shall not exceed the rate in the pound for 2001 by more than 7.5%. As the Council's work and activity programme must be related to its

income level a 7.5% increase in the rate in the pound has been provided for. The estimated rate income based on this increase for 2002 is £7,457,100. The County Manager stated that the Council had the second lowest increase of the Rate in the Pound in the country in the period 1977-2001. The Council's Rate in the Pound in 2001 was the eighth lowest of any county council, and the lowest of any of the comparable large western counties such as Donegal, Mayo and Kerry.

The County Manager said that there would be no increase in Water Charges for 2002 for metered accounts and that there is a 5% increase over 2001 proposed for fixed charges (with the exception of farm troughs).

He then proceeded to outline the proposed expenditure programmes for 2002. In addition to the day to day operational arrangements, he highlighted some of the more significant features of the various programmes for 2002.

- Increased provision for Non-National Roads.
- Review of the Galway Land Use and Transportation Study.
- Additional funding for :
  - New Public Lights [£100,000 from £88,000]
  - Arts Grants [£120,000 from £90,000]
  - Economic Activity Grants [£100,000 from £80,000]
  - Amenity Grants [£120,000 from £97,500]
- Funding for Disabled Persons and Essential Repair Grants.
- Introduction of National Vehicle and Driver File automated system.
- Progress with I.T. Strategic Plan.
- Council involvement in proposed Broadband communications infrastructure.
- Continued improvements in Water and Sewerage network.
- New Initiative for Village Regeneration.
- Completion of planned housing upgrade programme.
- Burial Ground Grants provision.
- Further development of Financial Management System.
- Promotion of Forward Planning process.
- Extension of Service Delivery Programme.
- County Development Board Strategy.
- Review of Development Plan process.
- Fire Service development.
- Waste Management and Litter Control progress.
- Library Service extension.

The County Manager said that total revenue expenditure for the year is increased by 10.7% to £78,038,621 and that total expenditure for the year, including capital expenditure, would reach almost £135 million. He said that this amounted to expenditure of approximately £1/2 million per working day.

He said that the Council continues to play the lead role in the development of the County, primarily through its Capital Investment Programme in the provision and improvement of the infrastructure and through pursuing the objectives of the

Corporate Plan, adopted earlier this year. The implementation of the Programme of Change, provided for in “Better Local Government” both in respect of members and staff, is significantly improving measures for the evaluation and formulation of policy. The objective of increasing co-operation between the Council and Community and Voluntary Groups is also gaining momentum.

He thanked the Members of the Council for their assistance and support during the past year, especially the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Regan and his predecessor, An Comh. Connie Ni Fhatharta, and for their wholehearted commitment to the duties of the office and for their courtesy to the staff and himself. He recommended adoption of the Estimates as presented.

Cllr. Callanan welcomed the 7% increase in the allocation from the Local Government Fund and said that the Directors’ Reports illustrated how many activities the Council was involved in. He said that it was unfortunate that rates must be increased by 7.5% and that this could cause difficulties for businesses especially in rural areas. He highlighted the difficulties experienced by Galway marts and hoped that this would be taken into account.

Cllr. Callanan complimented the Housing section on their work and welcomed the increased expenditure proposed for Disabled Persons Grants. He welcomed the Village Regeneration Scheme and the recognition given to communities through Amenity and Arts Grants. He hoped that the Council’s contribution to the refurbishment of Ballinasloe Swimming Pool could be increased, as it is an amenity for all of East Galway and not just the town of Ballinasloe. He requested that Council officials investigate the state of traveller accommodation at Cappira. He also asked for clarification over where the income received from development contributions is spent.

Dep. Connaughton said that the report was a record of the tremendous activity of the Council. He said that the number of people employed by the Council and its’ level of expenditure made it a very important part of the local economy. He said that the Estimates reflected the downturn in the economy. He expressed concern that although the level of road grants was increased, the level of inflation in the construction industry meant that the amount of work done on the roads in 2002 would be less than in the current year.

He expressed concern that it would take 10 years for a person going on the housing list now to get a house given the current level of investment, despite the increase in spending in the last number of years. He felt that Affordable Housing was not a solution in itself, as there remained many families who could not afford a mortgage at all.

Dep. Connaughton also welcomed the increased expenditure on the Disabled Persons Grants and said that it illustrated the necessity for a home improvement grant. He welcomed the introduction of the Village Regeneration Scheme on the proviso that it shouldn’t replace once-off rural housing. He questioned whether there was infrastructure in place to facilitate village regeneration and where the funding for improving infrastructure would come from.

He said that it is essential that work proceed on the extension to Aras an Chontae so that the best possible service is provided to the public, but that this should not occur at the expense of decentralisation. He also said that decentralisation to electoral area offices, should not reduce the service available in existing engineering area offices.

Dep. Connaughton felt that the increase in rates would cause difficulties for many businesses and requested that the special difficulties experienced by marts in the past year be taken into consideration. He hoped that refurbishment works on the swimming pools at Ballinasloe and Tuam be funded before the end of the current grants scheme.

Cllr. Loughnane proposed that the amount of discretionary expenditure that each councillor has in relation to public lighting be increased to £2,000 and that each councillors allocated 'Notice of Motion' expenditure on roads be increased to £10,000. He said he was disappointed that councillors representations in regard to road improvements at Carrabane were not taken on board, and stressed the councillors role as the voice of the public. He said that delays in housing improvement works need to be addressed. He said that decentralisation should not affect the status of Athenry area office and requested that funding be made available for a swimming pool in Loughrea.

Cllr. Joyce said that road workers were doing an excellent job and that any long-term temporary staff should be made permanent if possible. He seconded Cllr. Loughnane's proposals regarding councillor's discretionary spending on provision of public lighting and 'notice of motion' roads works. He welcomed the number of water and sewerage schemes that have started or are due to start, but complained that only one out of 18 was in the Ballinasloe Electoral Area. He said that funding should be available for both upgrading existing schemes and new schemes, and that a special effort should be made to eliminate water pollution. He also requested increased funding for swimming pools and for sign posting along the Portumna-Ballygar tourist trail.

Cllr. P. McHugh complemented the Head of Finance on the way the Estimates were presented and the way the Council's finances are managed. He welcomed increased expenditure on Disabled Persons Grants and requested that delays in processing applications be addressed. He also requested information on the delay in dividing and renaming Parkmore Estate in Tuam and a report on the status of turnkey developments. He asked that the Council considers the purchase of land for the extension of burial grounds as a matter of urgency as burial plots are scarce.

Cllr. P. McHugh also felt that it is unfair of the Council to refuse planning permission because an Area Action Plan was needed, where the Council itself had not yet prepared such a Plan. He also stated that he had difficulties with the proposals for Abbey Trinity carpark in Tuam. He said that he voted in favour of the sale of the site on the basis that the development would include a hotel and streetscape, and that neither were now part of the planning application. He asked that the members be consulted about the implementation of disc parking schemes and that any such schemes be implemented simultaneously for on-street and off-street parking.

Cllr. J. Burke said that he was concerned by the reduction of certain state grants and that it was difficult to ask business for a 7.5% increase in rates when grants hadn't increased accordingly. He said that the valuation of premises by the Valuations Office was causing great difficulty for some businesses.

He welcomed the implementation of the Community Warden Scheme on a pilot basis in Co. Galway and the increased level of Arts grants. He agreed with Cllr. P. McHugh that disc parking should be implemented simultaneously both on-street and off-street.

Dep. Burke said that the rates increase is large, especially in an economic downturn and hoped that the Council would be sympathetic to cases of hardship. He said that the county was losing out to the city in rate income. He was concerned that improvements made in some services in recent years would not continue next year. He feared that the upgrading of group water schemes would not continue and hoped that the DoELG would increase funding.

Dep. Burke said that the current level of provision of new housing by the Council was insufficient to meet the demands of all those on the housing list. He asked the Council to consider approaching the Dept. of Environment and Local Government to refine the Town and Urban Renewal Scheme because of the low uptake. He asked that a special effort be made by the Council to stop the disintegration of Loughrea Town Hall. He said that the bridge at Kilchreest needs improvement work as a matter of urgency.

Cllr. T. McHugh said that the rate increase is very high, especially as it falls on such a small part of the community. He said that increasing valuations was causing difficulties for businesses when they could least afford it. He said that the implementation of Better Local Government had caused difficulties and looked forward to the smoother operation of services next year. He noted the increase in expenditure for public lighting and hoped that the member's discretionary allocation would be increased.

Cllr. T. McHugh suggested that works be programmed to ensure they are completed on time, so that best value is achieved from funding. He asked that the Council consider using sub-contractors to do works that Council staff could not, to ensure grants are not lost.

Councillor J.J. Mannion said that if the Council did not implement the full increase in the rate in the pound, it would be penalised in future Local Government Fund Allocations.

The County Manager noted that as Council employs almost 1200 staff and will spend £135 million in 2002, it must be seen to spend this money effectively. He acknowledged that there had been difficulties with the amount of staffing changes, but he was encouraged with the way senior staff have taken to their new posts. He looked forward to an improved service in the future, as the new staff that had been recruited are highly qualified, and apologised for any inconvenience caused during the changes. He said that the new structure of SPC's and the CPG was taking shape and that a programme of work for 2002 would be formulated in the near future.

The County Manager said that the Council had a major role to play with regard to the development of the county. He said that in preparing the Estimates a balance had to be struck between the requirements of the county and the ability of ratepayers to pay. He noted that the Council would spend £135 million in 2002, with only £7.5million being collected in rates. He said that a submission had been made to the Department of the

Environment and Local Government on the difficulties that Galway marts had experienced paying rates in 2001.

He said that he would report back to the members on the operation of the Village Regeneration Scheme. He said that the Amenity and Economic Development Grants in the Estimates helped strengthen the links between the council and communities.

He said that the housing programme outlined in the report was ambitious and he paid tribute to the various voluntary bodies also involved in the provision of housing. He said that all options needed to be utilised to meet the increasing demand for housing.

The County Manager explained that the extension of Áras an Chontae was necessary because of the unforeseeable increase in the level of services and staff since the building was originally designed. He said that a master plan had been prepared for the development of the remainder of the site at Áras an Chontae and that the recruitment of consultants was imminent and that a design remit was being prepared. Phase 2 of the development of the site would be the extension to Áras an Chontae and Phase 3 would include a new Library Headquarters, Branch Library and archival space. He said that the development would proceed without undue delay and that he would report to the CPG on developments.

With regard to decentralisation, he said that 5 electoral area offices had been agreed and that as many services as possible would be decentralized without reducing cost-effectiveness. Ballinasloe office was being used as a pilot scheme to identify the level of service to be decentralised. He gave an undertaking that although the functions of the existing area offices may change, no office would be closed. He said that £10,000 per member would be provided for 'notice of motion' road works and that he hoped that this would be spent effectively. He said that contact would be made with the ESB to sort out delays in provision of new public lighting.

He said that Mr. T. Kavanagh would prepare a report for members regarding burial grounds, and that the council was having difficulty acquiring land to extend burial grounds.

He undertook to get planning officials to look at the difficulties encountered with Area Action Plans. He accepted that the uptake of the Urban Renewal Scheme was not as much as was hoped for and undertook to prepare a report for the members on the matter. He said that the level of Arts grants in the estimates for 2002 was as high as possible given the restrictions.

Mr. F. Gilmore told the members the Council had advertised for proposals for turnkey developments and that they received responses from twenty developers, offering 200 units. Two developments in Loughrea for 56 houses had been accepted and other proposals are being reviewed. He said the difficulty in relation to turnkey developments was not a lack of supply, but in matching supply to areas where there was demand. He said that staff had been appointed to improve estate management in the county.

**Adoption of Estimate of Expenses for year 2002**

1364

It was proposed by Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Mullins and resolved: -

That Galway County Council hereby adopt the Estimate of Expenses for the financial year ending 31/12/2002 as presented and as set out in Tables A, B and D, of the said Estimate of Expenses.

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution adopted.

**Determination of the Rate in the Pound**

1365

It was proposed by Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh and resolved: -

That Galway County Council hereby determine in accordance with the Estimate of Expenses for the financial year ending 31/12/2002 as presented and adopted, the rates as set out in Table B and Table D to be the rates in the Pound to be levied for the several purposes as set out in Table B and Table D for the financial year ending 31/12/2002.

The Cathaoirleach declared Cllr. Cunningham's proposal carried and declared that the Rate in the Pound for the various purposes specified in the estimate for the financial year ending 31/12/2002 had been determined by the Council. The prescribed certificate was then signed.

**Demand on Ballinasloe Urban District Council**

1366

It was proposed by Cllr O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Mullins and resolved: -

That the statutory demand on the Ballinasloe Urban District Council for year ending 31/12/2002 be signed and sealed.

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution adopted.

**Estimated Expenditure and Income Outturn for 2001**

1367

On the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Mullins, the Council noted and approved the estimated expenditure and outturn figures for 2001 as set out in the Book of Estimates.

The Cathaoirleach declared the resolution adopted.

**CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved & Signed

M. J. Key

12/12/01.

DATE

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON  
MONDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2001**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. M. Regan

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

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

**Oifigigh:** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh,  
P. Ridge, F. Dawson, J. Morgan, F. Gilmore, J. Cullen,  
Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance,  
M. Timmins, Senior Engineer, M. Dolly, Senior Engineer,  
D. Barrett, Senior Executive Officer, T. Connell, Senior  
Executive Officer, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officer,  
E. Cannon, A/Administrative Officer, Ms. M. Jordan,  
Administrative Officer.

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

**1361**

A Resolution of Sympathy was extended to the following: -

Mrs. Rose Keane, Deerpark, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.  
The Kelly Family, Dromavohan, Moycullen, Co. Galway.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY FOR THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF 14 DWELLINGHOUSES, SEWAGE  
TREATMENT PLANT, ROADS AND ALL ASSOCIATED  
SERVICES AND OUTLINE PERMISSION FOR CRÈCHE,**

**1362**



**52 DWELLINGHOUSES AND ALL ASSOCIATED SERVICES  
IN THE TOWNLAND OF RAHEEN - PLANNING REF. NO. 01/299**

**APPLICANT:** Mr. Eamon Conneely, Oyster Homes Ltd.

Mr. Comer gave details of the application referring to report dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2001 which had been circulated in advance.

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:** The proposed development is for the construction of 14 dwellinghouses, sewage treatment plant, roads and all associated services and Outline Permission for crèche, 52 dwellinghouses and all associated services in the townland of Raheen, Athenry

**LOCATION:** The site is located at Raheen, Athenry and it fronts the public road. It is inside the Athenry town speed limits.

**ZONING:** The site is currently located in an agricultural zone according to the present Athenry Town Development Plan which was adopted in April 1992. The Draft Athenry Town Development Plan has now included this site in lands which are zoned for residential use. There is an archaeological site on part of this (site 118 of Map 84, Sites and Monuments Record) and is included in Table 3.2 and Map 2 of the current Athenry Town Plan as Ref. No. P25, "Site of Road" Preservation to be considered. Having discussed this item with Dúchas, conditions will be included in the planning permission to ensure that a careful archaeological survey and excavation with full report will be carried out.

**PLANNING HISTORY:** There were a number of planning applications made along the road frontage of this site, namely Planning Reference No. 53999, which was an outline permission granted for 4 no. dwellinghouses in September 1987. Planning Reference No. 23839 was an outline permission granted for the same site as above for 4 no. dwellinghouses in May 1976. Prior to the above applications, Planning Reference No's 2241, 10642, 10709, 10784, 10888, and 13276 were refused by the County Council and the Minister for Local Government on dates between May 1966 and August 1973.

**OBJECTIONS:** There is an objection from a neighbour based on (i) the zoning, (ii) the provision of a treatment plant rather than discharge to a public sewer which causes concern for the objector, (iii) the proposed boundary fence between both properties, (iv) the unclear site location map which was initially submitted with the application. The above concerns were taken into consideration when making the recommendation. (i) The material contravention was recommended due to the zoning of the present plan and because it is included in a residential use in the Athenry Town Plan. (ii) As a result of the request for further information the treatment plant was relocated within the site to an area where it conflicts with the County Council's Guidelines. (iii) The construction of a 2 metre high wall has been included in the conditions to be erected along the boundary between the properties. (iv) A revised site location map was submitted as a result of a

request for further information. There is an observation from another adjoining neighbour regarding the building line. Copy of the objection and observation attached.

**ASSESSMENT:** The proposal is for (i) Planning Permission for 14 no. dwellinghouses, sewage treatment plant, roads and all associated services and (ii) Outline Permission for crèche, 52 no. dwellinghouses and all associated services on this site which has a stated area of 4.93 hectares (12.256 acres). There is a good mix of house types including detached, semi-detached, both two-storey and single storey, and some terraced houses. There is also provision for a crèche facility. Site no. 80 shall be reserved for a community facility development which shall be the subject of a further planning application. Open space is satisfactory. The site adjoins a site on which planning permission was granted for 68 no. dwellinghouses in April 2000 and works on the construction have commenced.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended to materially contravene the Athenry Town Development Plan and to grant planning permission for the construction of 14 dwellinghouses, sewage treatment plant, roads and all associated services and outline permission for crèche, 51 dwellinghouses and all associated services, with conditions.

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

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2001 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 11<sup>th</sup> December 2001.

Cllr. Cunningham proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Mr. Eamonn Conneely, Oyster Homes Ltd., for (i) Planning Permission for 14 no. dwellinghouses, sewage treatment plant, roads and all associated services and (ii) Outline Permission for crèche, 52 no. dwellinghouses and all associated services in the townland of Raheen, Athenry, and having considered the Report dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2001, 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. Hoade seconded this proposal. A vote was taken which resulted as follows: -

AR SON: Cllr. J. Burke, Dep. U. Burke, Cllr. Callanan, Dep. Connaughton, Cllrs. Connolly, Conneely, Cunningham, Fahy, Gavin, Grealish, Hoade, Hynes, Joyce, Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, P. McHugh, T. McHugh, Mullins, Comh. Ni Fhatharta, O Foighil, Cllrs. O'Sullivan, Quinn, Rabbitt, Regan, S. Walsh, T. Walsh. (27)

IN AGHAIDH: (0)

GAN VOTAIL: (0)

The Chairman declared the resolution carried.

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted Approved & Signed  
M. Walsh  
17/12/01.  
Date

MINUTES

1314

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathairíoch on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. J. McHugh.

## CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### **MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2001.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. M. Regan

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Deps. U. Burke, P. Connaughton, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. J. Callanan, J. Conneely, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. P. O Foighil, Cllrs. T. Rabbitt, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

**Oifigih:** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, P. Ridge, J. Cullen, J. Morgan, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, J. Eising, Senior Engineer, L. Gavin, Senior Engineer, T. Connell, Senior Executive Officer, T. Murphy, Senior Executive Officer, A. Comer, Senior Executive Officer, J. McGuirk, Executive Engineer, C. Mac Aodha Bhuí, Oifigeach Gaeilge, Ms. M. Killoran-Coyne, Senior Staff Officer, Ms. R. O'Boyle, Staff Officer, Ms. G. Healy, Staff Officer, Ms. M. Bourke, Assistant Staff Officer.

Mr. D. Whyte, P.H. McCarthy & Partners, Consulting Engineers.

#### **Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.**

In relation to the absence of Cllrs. Burke and Quinn, due to illness, the Cathaoirleach and County Manager wished them both a speedy recovery.

Cllr. Fahy extended congratulations to Cllr. T. Walsh's mother who reached the age of 100 recently.

#### **MINUTES**

**1314**

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh.

Cllr. McClearn proposed that the Minister for the Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & The Islands be invited again to attend a Meeting of the Council to discuss the matter of Special Areas of Conservation.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 22nd October, 2001 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan and seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

## REPORTS

1315

The Report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Gavin and seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

The Report of the Environmental & Conservation Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 14th November, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion.

The Report of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 21st May, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Hoade and seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

The Report of the Planning & Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 16th October, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Hoade and seconded by Cllr. Grealish.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 16th July, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Joyce and seconded by Cllr. T. Mannion.

In reply to Cllr. Joyce, Mr. T. Kavanagh clarified the position regarding the Assessment of Needs Programme and the prioritisation of Ballinasloe Rural Water Supply Scheme within that Programme.

In reply to Cllr. Joyce, Mr. Kavanagh explained that Eyrecourt's position on the Assessment of Needs Programme was re-examined in the light of increased development in the county at large.

The Report of the Ballinasloe Area Committee Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan and seconded by Cllr. Joyce.

It was proposed by Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Joyce and agreed that the Council would request the National Roads Authority to make adequate funds available to ensure that the Aughrim to Cappataggle Road Improvement works would be completed.

The Report of the Oranmore Area Committee Meeting held on the 24th September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Rabbitt and seconded by Cllr. Grealish.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 3rd September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. Gavin.

The Report of the Conamara Area Committee Meeting held on the 6th November, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. Gavin.

The Report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on the 7th November, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham and seconded by Cllr. Fahy.

The Report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on the 12th November, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. Cunningham.

The Report of the Tuam Area Committee Meeting held on the 13th September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Deputy Connaughton and seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

Deputy Connaughton asked if the Council had made a submission to the Department of the Environment and Local Government for the necessary funding to upgrade the Boyounagh/Ballyedmond Group Water Supply Scheme. Mr. Kavanagh stated that a report will be prepared for the Tuam Area Committee on the matter.

**MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF DEVELOPMENT  
PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF ATHENRY FOR  
THE CONSTRUCTION OF 14 DWELLING HOUSES, SEWAGE  
TREATMENT PLANT, ROADS AND ALL ASSOCIATED  
SERVICES AND OUTLINE PERMISSION FOR CRECHE, 52  
DWELLING HOUSES AND ALL ASSOCIATED SERVICES  
IN THE TOWNLAND OF RAHEEN.**

**1316**

This item was deferred.

**REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDER THE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME. 1317**

Report dated 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 was circulated to each Member.

Construction of single rural houses with services at the following locations: -

- River Street, Eyrecourt, Co. Galway,
- Pollagh, Moycullen, Co. Galway,
- Roskeeda, Rosmuc, Co. Galway,
- Turlough, Rosmuc, Co. Galway.

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Dep. Connaughton.

**REPORT UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1994 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDER THE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME. 1318**

Report dated 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 was circulated to each Member.

Construction of single rural houses with services at the following locations: -

- Oorid, Derrybeg, Maam Cross, Co. Galway,
- Alnabroon, Kilkerrin, Co. Galway,
- Doughtywell, Cornamona, Co. Galway,
- Rosroe, Carna, Co. Galway,
- Tully, Renvyle, Co. Galway.

The works as proposed were approved on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Conneely.

**LEASE OF LAND AT ORANMORE 1319**

On the proposal of Cllr. Rabbitte, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, the Council approved the lease of land comprising 2.4277 hectares at Oranmore to Oranmore Community Development Association Limited, in accordance with Notice dated 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2001, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to the Members.

**SALE OF LAND AT MOUNTBELLEW**

**1320**

On the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Hynes, the Council approved the sale of land comprising 0.077 acres at Mountbellew to Moylough/Mountbellew Credit Union Ltd., in accordance with Notice dated 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2001, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to the Members.

**SALE OF LAND AT BALLYGAR**

**1321**

On the proposal of Dep. Connaughton, seconded by Cllr. Connolly, the Council approved the sale of land comprising 0.09 acres at Ballygar to Michael & Francis Pettit., in accordance with Notice dated 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2001, under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946, a copy of which had been circulated to the Members.

**AGREEMENTS UNDER SECTION 59 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1955.**

**1322**

On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Dep. Connaughton, the following agreements in accordance with Section 59 of the Local Government Act 1955 were approved:

- (a) Galway County Council and Galway Corporation – N6 Galway City Outer By-Pass
- (b) Galway County Council and Roscommon County Council – N6 Athlone/Ballinasloe
- (c) Galway County Council and Clare County Council – N18 Gort/Crusheen

**NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO LOCAL RURAL WATER MONITORING COMMITTEE –**

**1323**

Report dated 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2001 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. McClearn, the following Members were nominated to the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee: -

- Cllr. M. Connolly, Chairman
- Cllr. Michael Cunningham
- Comh. Pól Ó Foighil

**NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO LIAISON COMMITTEE FOR CONNEMARA NATIONAL PARK**

**1324**

Report dated 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. Gavin, Cllr. Conneely was nominated as the Council's representative to the Liaison Committee for Connemara National Park.



**TO APPROVE THE RAISING OF A LOAN OF £2.5m  
FOR TAKING IN CHARGE OF GROUP WATER SCHEMES**

**1325**

Report dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2001 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Connolly, approval was granted to the raising of a loan of £2.5m for taking in charge of group water schemes.

**TO CONSIDER DRAFT SLUDGE MANAGEMENT  
PLAN FOR GALWAY CITY & COUNTY.**

**1326**

Introducing the Draft Sludge Management Plan, Cllr. T. Mannion said that the Council is obliged to make a Waste Management Plan for all non-hazardous waste arising in the county and to comply with this requirement, the Council has adopted the Waste Management Plan for the Connacht region.

He said that one of the issues which the Council must now deal with is the Sludges created at the Council's Water and Sewerage Treatment plants. The Council must deal with this and this is being done jointly with the Galway Corporation as provided for in the legislation.

Cllr. Mannion said that the Draft Plan was considered by the Environmental and Conservation Services S.P.C. meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2001. The S.P.C. recommended that the Council approve the Draft Plan, which will form a subset of the main Waste Management Plan.

Mr. Whyte of P.H. McCarthy & Partners, Consulting Engineers made a presentation to the Council highlighting the following, in relation to the Draft Sludge Management Plan. He said that the purpose of the Plan is to identify current sources, rates of production and final destinations for sludge in the county and to identify more appropriate uses based on the hierarchy of methods for waste management. The central element of the Plan is the provision of a high tech facility to be based at the Hub Centre in Tuam which will convert sludge to a biosolid product for beneficial reuse mainly as an agriculture fertiliser. Collection of the sludge within the county will be enabled by the construction of collection facilities at four satellite centres to be located at Ballinasloe, Loughrea, Oughterard and Clifden. An operational plan over a twenty year period will ensure the efficient distribution of the fertiliser principally in the agriculture sector.

In reply to matters raised by the members, Mr. Whyte also made the following points:

- Every small sewerage treatment plant will have an on-site treatment facility.
- Farmers in REPs can reuse sludge as a substitute for artificial fertiliser.
- Mutton Island is treating sludge to a biosolid standard and Tuam will only be used as an alternative to Mutton Island if the agricultural market dries up.
- Odour from the plant will be at a low level.

In reply to Cllr. T. Walsh, Mr. Kavanagh said that the Council was not obliged to go through the public consultation process but that this would be done and that the matter would also be on the agenda of a Tuam Area Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham and agreed that the matter be put on the agenda for each Area Committee and that the Draft Sludge Management Plan be put on public display.

The County Manager informed the members that a tour of the Sludge Treatment Plant at Ringsend, Dublin was taking place at 11.30a.m. on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2001.

**TO CONSIDER DRAFT LITTER MANAGEMENT PLAN 2001 1327**

Introducing the Draft Litter Management Plan, Cllr. T. Mannion said that in accordance with the Litter Pollution Act 1997, the Council is required to review its Litter Management Plan every 3 years and that review had now taken place.

The Draft Plan seeks to identify the causes of litter, how to deal with them and prevent litter.

He said that this involves a whole number of issues:  
Attitude, apathy, awareness, education etc.

The Draft Plan encourages actions to tackle these issues, i.e.

- Increasing environmental awareness, especially among young people
- Involving schools in environmental campaigns
- Recycling initiatives
- Tidy towns competitions
- Working in partnership with communities
- Through enforcement if necessary

It is hoped that the community warden scheme will be a big help as regards litter management when the scheme is up and running.

Cllr. Mannion said that the Draft Plan was considered by the Environmental and Conservation Services S.P.C. on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2001 and he recommended it for approval by the Council.

Cllr. Joyce congratulated the Portumna Community School who got a Green Flag for their environmental project.

Mr. Kavanagh stated that there is now a litter phone line – 1850 24142. He stated that the public are encouraged to use this phone line to report anybody seen littering anywhere in the county.

Cllr. Gavin welcomed the Draft Litter Management Plan and the new phone line. However, he stated that the Council needs greater teeth in dealing with problems such as abandoned vehicles and persistent offenders.

Cllr. Mullins welcomed the Plan but stated that the Council must get tough with litter louts and he felt that there were not enough litter wardens employed to do so.

Cllr. McDonagh welcomed the Plan also and congratulated the Council on the work being done. He hoped that the public will co-operate and use the phone line and stated that there is marvellous work being done in schools to promote anti-litter.

Dep. Burke congratulated the Environmental Education Officer for her work. He stated that one of the major causes of litter in towns are the A.T.M. machines operated by the Banks and stated that the Council should discuss this problem with the Banks.

The County Manager stated that two Assistant Environmental Education Officers and 14 Community Wardens are being employed by the Council and the Council intends to wage war on litter louts by putting people out in force to deal with the problem. He stated that the Council will look at the problem of A.T.M. machines causing litter.

On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Mannion, the Draft Litter Management Plan 2001 was approved by the Council.

**TO APPROVE EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS. 1328**

Report dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2001 was circulated to each member.

On the proposal of Cllr Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Hoade, approval was given to the extension of time for the review of the following Development Plans: -

- (a) Loughrea Town and Environs
- (b) Gort
- (c) Athenry

**EUROPEAN OF THE YEAR AWARD 2001 1329**

On the proposal of Cllr Gavin, seconded by Cllr. Joyce, it was agreed that the Council would nominate Mr. John Hume for the European of the Year Award 2001.

**MANAGERS BUSINESS 1330**

**Roadworks Grant**

Mr. Murphy said that An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht Gaeltachta agus Oileán has confirmed a grant of £320,000 for roadworks at various locations on the Cloughbrack road and Ardaun on the R345 Cornamona/Clonbur road.

**Official Openings**

Mr. Murphy said it was proposed to invite the Minister for Environment & Local Government to officially open: -

- (a) Inishmore Regional Water Supply Scheme.
- (b) Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme – Stage 3.
- (c) Tuam Regional Water Supply Scheme – extension to Athenry
- (d) Loughrea Sewerage Scheme.

**CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

1331

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach, seconded by Cllr. Callanan, it was agreed that the Council seek funding from the Department of the Environment and Local Government for the provision of central heating in local authority houses.

Cllr. Hoade asked Mr. Ridge to ascertain what other counties such as Sligo, Donegal and Wicklow state in their County Development Plans regarding sharing of telecommunication masts and if they stipulate that a mast should not be erected within one mile of schools, community centres etc.

Mr. Ridge stated that this matter will be discussed at the next Planning & Economic Development S.P.C. meeting and that a Policy Statement will then be brought to the full Council.

**N.O.M. NO. 19 – LIGHTING – DEP. U. BURKE**

1332

The following reply was given to Dep. Burke: -

*“New lamps and lights have been ordered from the E.S.B. for the Quay, Kinvara. The ducting is in place. We are awaiting the installation of the lights by E.S.B. The erection of a barrier along the quay side would interfere with the use of the quay by vessels berthing there.”*

**N.O.M. NO. 20 – BRIDGES – DEP. U. BURKE**

1333

The following reply was given to Dep. Burke: -

*“We are waiting approval for design from Iarnród Eireann office in Athlone. On receipt of approval we will proceed to Part X procedure and will seek funding from Department of the Environment.”*

**N.O.M. NO. 21 – TRAFFIC – DEP. U. BURKE**

1334

The following reply was given to Dep. Burke: -

*"Traffic counts at this location will be carried out in the next two months."*

**N.O.M. NO. 22 – SEWERAGE – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON**

1335

The following reply was given to Dep. Connaughton: -

*"The Council has received no written confirmation from the Department of the Environment in relation to this matter and is awaiting their decision on same. There are no funds available at present to undertake the necessary works without funding from the Department of the Environment."*

**N.O.M. NO. 23 – RATES – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON**

1336

The following reply was given to Dep. Connaughton: -

*"This is a matter for consideration by Ballinasloe Urban District Council"*

**N.O.M. NO. 24 – ROADS – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON**

1337

The following reply was given to Dep. Connaughton: -

*"The standard road signs (No. 106) are provided on both approaches on the N17 to this junction. Standard road lining and markings are also provided. There are 14 such junctions on the N17 between Tuam and Milltown which can involve right turning movements. Obviously on National routes where there are maximum speed limits there is an inherent danger in negotiating any right turning movements at such junctions. It is unlikely that the warrant exists for the provision of a right turning lane at the junction referred to or any of the other junctions on this stretch of road. However, a survey can be arranged to confirm this."*

**N.O.M. NO. 25 – SEWERAGE – CLLR. M. FAHY**

1338

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy: -

*"The provision of a sewerage treatment system for Kinvara is included in the Council's Water Services Assessment of Needs Programme for construction during the period 2002 – 2006. This assessment of needs is with the Department of the Environment and the commencement of the scheme will be dependent on confirmation from the Department. In the meantime, the Council is undertaking surveys to determine appropriate treatment and disposal methods."*

**N.O.M. NO. 26 – LIGHTING – CLLR. M. FAHY**

**1339**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy: -

*"The road is the N66 Gort/Loughrea Road. A request for National Route Lighting will be made to the N.R.A."*

**N.O.M. NO. 27 – IMPROVEMENT WORKS – CLLR. M. FAHY**

**1340**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy: -

*"It is intended to carry out White Lining and replacement of signs at Cregclare as soon as contractors are available to carry out the work"*

**N.O.M. NO. 28 – TRAFFIC – CLLR. N. GREALISH**

**1341**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Grealish: -

*"This location will be considered when selecting sites for future school flashing lights programmes."*

**N.O.M. NO. 29 – ROADS – CLLR. N. GREALISH**

**1342**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Grealish: -

*"The taking in charge of this road is not recommended pending the completion of the boundary wall at the extreme north of the road."*

**N.O.M. NO. 30 – TRAFFIC – CLLR. N. GREALISH**

**1343**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Grealish: -

*"This matter will be investigated and a report will issue in due course."*

**N.O.M. NO. 31 – ROADS – CLLR. P. HYNES**

**1344**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Hynes: -

*"This road is not in charge of Galway County Council. A submission has been made by Mr. William Treacy under the Local Improvements Scheme and this will be reviewed in due course."*

**N.O.M. NO. 32 – ROADS – CLLR. P. HYNES 1345**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Hynes: -

*"The road in front of this property is low and needs to be raised. The cost is approximately £500. There is no funding until 2002 to do this work."*

**N.O.M. NO. 33 – FIRE SERVICE – CLLR. P. HYNES 1346**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Hynes: -

*"I am to advise that this issue has now been resolved as the Firefighters on Inis Mor have accepted the proposals offered by the County Council at a meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 between Management and S.I.P.T.U."*

**N.O.M. NO. 34 – SPPED LIMIT – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 1347**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Loughnane: -

*"Following consultation with the traffic section of the Gardai at Mill Street, it is considered that no change to the existing speed limit is necessary at Kiltulla village."*

**N.O.M. NO. 35 – SPEED LIMIT – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 1348**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Loughnane: -

*"Following consultation with the traffic section of the Gardai at Mill Street, it is considered that no change to the existing speed limit is necessary at Kiltulla village."*

**N.O.M. NO. 36 – LIGHTING – SEN. J. McDONAGH 1349**

The following reply was given to Sen. McDonagh: -

*"Traffic route lighting for the village of Lackagh will be considered when preparing the traffic route lighting programme for 2002."*

**N.O.M. NO. 37 – LIGHTING – SEN. J. McDONAGH 1350**

The following reply was given to Sen. McDonagh: -

*"The County Council has completed some of the works in relation to the footpath and ducting between Lackagh village and Turloughmore Community Centre. The remaining ground works will be completed in anticipation of funding being provided from the Traffic Route Lighting Programme."*

**N.O.M. NO. 38 – ROADS – SEN J. McDONAGH 1351**

The following reply was given to Sen. McDonagh: -

*"The road at Leana-Cloca, Waterdale, Claregalway, will be inspected to determine its suitability to be taken in charge by the Council".*

**N.O.M. NO. 39 – FOOTPATHS – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 1352**

The following reply was given to Comh Ni. Fhatharta: -

*"Tá an ordú leis an conraitheoir chun dromchla macadam a chuir ar na cosáin roimh deireadh na bliana. Aistreóidh Eircom na pollaí níos déanaí de réir a glár oibre."*

**N.O.M. NO. 40 – FLOODING – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 1353**

The following reply was given to Comh Ni. Fhatharta: -

*"Cuirfear caoi ar nuair a chríochnófar an dromchla nua ar an láthair seo go luath i 2002".*

**N.O.M. NO. 41 – ROADS – COMH C. NI FHATHARTA 1354**

The following reply was given to Comh Ni. Fhatharta: -

*"Déanfar obair ar an cuid is measa den bóthar ag an áit thuasluaite roimh deireadh na bliana."*

**N.O.M. NO. 42 – ROADS – CLLR. K. QUINN 1355**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Quinn: -

*"This work is not included in the Non National Road Works Programme which has recently been revised and approved by Councillors. Therefore this work cannot be carried out in 2002."*

**N.O.M. NO. 43 – ROADS - CLLR. K. QUINN 1356**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Quinn: -

*"This work is not included in the Non National Road Works Programme which has recently been revised and approved by Councillors. Therefore this work cannot be carried out in 2002."*



**N.O.M. NO. 44 – ROADS – CLLR. K. QUINN**

**1357**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Quinn: -

*"This work is not included in the Non National Road Works Programme which has recently been revised and approved by Councillors. Therefore this work cannot be carried out in 2002."*

**N.O.M. NO. 45 – FOOTPATHS – CLLR. T. WALSH**

**1358**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Walsh: -

*"This work will be put in hand in the near future."*

**N.O.M. NO. 46 – ROADS – CLLR. T. WALSH**

**1359**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Walsh: -

*"Remedial work has recently been carried out at this location."*

**N.O.M. NO. 47 – WALLS – CLLR. T. WALSH**

**1360**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Walsh: -

*"The above walls will be carried out early in the New Year".*

**CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIÚ ANSIN.**

*Submitted Approved & Signed*

*M. A. Walsh*

*17/12/01.*

*Date*

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY  
COUNCIL HELD AT ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON  
WEDNESDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2001**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. M. Regan

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Dep. U. Burke, Cllrs. J. Callanan, M. Connolly, M. Cunningham, M. Fahy, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, T. McHugh, M. Mullins, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, S. O Neachtain, Cllrs. K. Quinn, S. Walsh, T. Walsh.

**Oifigigh:** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager,  
T. Murphy, S.E.O., E. Cannon, S.O.,  
Ms. M. Niland, A.S.O.

**Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.**

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

**1311**

The Members extended their sympathy to Cllr. S. Walsh on the recent death of his mother; and Cllr. T. Mannion on the recent death of his father in law. The County Manager, on behalf of the staff, said that he wished to be associated with the Resolutions of Sympathy.

The Cathaoirleach adjourned the Meeting for five minutes as a mark of respect.

**TO CONSIDER RE-FIXING DATE OF ESTIMATES MEETING**

**1312**

The County Manager suggested that the Estimates Meeting which had originally been fixed for the 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2001, be deferred to a later date in order that full information be obtained from DoELG as to the level of Rate Support Grant and the rates capping and any other financial parameters which the Department may prescribe in relation to 2002. Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Cunningham and agreed, that the Council would revoke its decision taken on the 22<sup>nd</sup>

October, 2001 to hold the Estimates Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 and that Meetings would take place on the following dates: -

- Monthly Meeting of the Council to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 at 3.00 p.m.
- Estimates Meeting to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2001 at 3.00 p.m.
- Estimates Meeting, followed by Council Meeting, to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2001 at 2.45 p.m.

The County Manager said that approval would have to be sought from the Department of the Environment and Local Government to defer the Estimates Meeting as proposed above.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**1313**

Congratulations were extended to the following teams on their recent successes: -

Annaghdown Senior Football Team on winning the County Final.  
Oughterard Intermediate Football Team on winning the County Final.  
Kiltormer Intermediate Hurling Team on winning the County Final.  
Pearses Camogie Team on winning the All Ireland Club Championship.

**CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved & Signed

M. M. A. G.

17/12/01.

Date

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL ON MONDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER, 2001**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. M. Regan

**ILATHAIR FREISIN:**

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

**Oifigigh:-** Messrs. D. O'Donoghue, Co. Manager, T. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, F. Gilmore, P. Ridge, J. Morgan, Directors of Services, E. Lusby, Head of Finance, L. Gavin, S.E., L. Kavanagh, S.E.E., A. Comer, S.E.O., T. Murphy, S.E.O., P. Carroll, A.O., Ms. M. Jordan, A.O. Ms. P. Fitzpatrick, S.E.E., Ms. S. Kennedy, E.P., Ms. M. Burke, A.S.O.

**Thosnaigh an cruinniu leis an paidir.**

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY:-**

**1282**

Mr. Gerry McMahon & Family, Tubber Road, Gort, Co. Galway.  
Abbie Bn. Ui Fhatharta, Maimin, Leitirmoir, Co. na Gaillimhe.  
Mrs. Kyne, Bohercoill, Belclare, Tuam, Co. Galway.

The Cathaoirleach congratulated Mr T. Casserly, Civil Defence Officer and the Civil Defence Team, representing Galway County Council, who were the overall winners of the Group 2 National Civil Defence Exercises/Competitions 2001. He also congratulated the Clarinbridge Senior Hurling Team who won the County Final, Craughwell on winning the County Minor Hurling Final and the Kilnadeema/Leitrim hurlers who won the U16 County Final.

**MINUTES**

1283

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on the 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Comh. Ni Fhatharta, seconded by Cllr. Quinn.

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Cunningham, seconded by Cllr. Hoade.

Referring to the ongoing dispute between the I.F.A. and DoELG regarding the payment to farmers of compensation for land acquisition, Cllr. Loughnane proposed that any money saved be made available to develop the railway network, especially the Tuam to Gort line, and he asked the County Manager to investigate this matter.

Cllr. Connolly asked that where objections and observations were made in relation to a Material Contravention of the County Development Plan that they would be made available to the Councillors.

Cllr. Joyce referred to a letter from the Minister for the Environment and Local Government that stated that Ballinasloe Regional Water Scheme was fourth on the list for the year 2000-2006. He said that he had since been informed that the scheme is now fifth on the list and requested an explanation. The County Manager said that a reply on this matter would issue to Cllr. Joyce.

**REPORTS**

1284

The report of the Committee Meeting of the Full Council held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh.

The report of the Planning & Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Hoade, seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

The report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

The report of the Loughrea Area Committee Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

The report on the Joint Meeting of Loughrea Area Committee and Loughrea Town Commissioners held on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

Cllr. McClearn proposed that the Council enter into negotiations with the Mart in Loughrea with a view to providing extra car parking spaces in the town.

The report on the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee Meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2001 was considered. It was adopted by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Quinn.

### **RATES ON MARTS IN COUNTY GALWAY**

**1285**

Cllr. Callanan asked that the Council consider giving the Marts in County Galway, a 50% reduction on rates due to the fact that they had to close for a substantial length of time during the year because of the foot and mouth crisis. He said that farmers had played a very important part in preventing the spread of foot and mouth disease in the country. Dep. Connaughton said that many of the Marts in the County were in financial difficulty. He said that they had complied with the directives from the Department of Agriculture in every way at their own expense. Cllr. Hynes asked that an exception be made in this case and a waiver be given to the Marts in recognition of their efforts in preventing the spread of the disease.

Mr. Lusby said that he and the Cathaoirleach had met a Delegation from the Marts on this matter and he sympathised with their situation. He explained, however, that he had the responsibility for the collection of rates in the county and did not have the power to reduce rates on any premises. He recommended that a case be made to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Environment and Local Government in relation to this matter.

It was proposed by Cllr. Callanan, seconded by Dep. Connaughton and agreed that the Council would write to the Department of the Environment and Local Government and also the Department of Agriculture in relation to this matter.

### **MATERIAL CONTRAVENTION OF THE COUNTY**

**1286**

#### **DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE SCHEDULED TOWN OF LOUGHREA AND THE ENVIRONS OF LOUGHREA FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 77 NO. DWELLINGHOUSES WITH ALL SITE WORKS AND SERVICES AT DANESFORT ROAD IN THE TOWNLAND OF CAHERWALTER**

**PLANNING REF. 00/2080**

The Cathaoirleach stated that he had an interest in the planning application, the subject of this material contravention, and he left the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr. Callanan would act as Cathaoirleach for this item.

**APPLICANT:** Callanan & Fitzgerald, c/o O'Connor, Keogh & Mulcaire,  
Woodquay Court, Woodquay, Galway

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT:** The proposed development is for the construction of 77 no. dwellinghouses with all site works and services at Danesfort Road in the townland of Caherwalter.

**LOCATION:** The site is located in the townland of Caherwalter, at Danesfort Road on the north eastern outskirts of Loughrea Town where the maximum speed limit applies.

**PLANNING HISTORY:** 98/2685: Callanan & Fitzgerald withdrew application for outline permission for 6 no. dwellinghouses and full permission for 106 no. dwellinghouse in the townland of Caherwalter.  
99/322<sup>Adj. site</sup>: Jardonelle were granted permission to construct 60 no. dwellinghouses and associated services on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 1999.

**ZONING:** The site is at present zoned for agricultural use in the current Loughrea Development Plan, but is zoned residential in the Draft Development Plan for Loughrea.

**ASSESSMENT:** The proposed development comprises of 77 no. dwellinghouses, comprising of a mix of units. The site size is 3.64 hectares (9 acres). A total of 16% of open space is being provided which is well supervised and relatively well sited. All gardens have the 11 metres minimum required rear garden space. A revised layout was submitted to the Planning Authority on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2001, in order to incorporate a greater mix of house types due to the fact that the Planning Authority had some concerns in relation to the original layout in which house no's 8 & 50 were very close to the boundaries of an adjoining housing development, and were likely to interfere with the residential amenity of these existing houses. The revised layout is satisfactory.

The proposed development is to be connected to the public sewer. The time was originally extended on the application based on a Sanitary Services report and a Roads Design report because at the time of the application, it was considered premature as there was an existing deficiency in the sewerage treatment facilities in Loughrea. These problems have now been overcome.

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Taking into consideration the proposed zoning of the lands for residential development in the Draft plan for Loughrea, a grant of planning permission is recommended subject to appropriate conditions.

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

Public notice of the Council's intention to consider deciding to grant permission was given on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2001 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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2001.

Cllr. M. Loughnane proposed that having considered the Planning Application made by Callanan & Fitzgerald, c/o O'Connor, Keogh & Mulcaire, Woodquay Court, Woodquay, Galway for Planning permission for the construction of 77 no. dwellinghouses with all site works and services at Danesfort Road in the townland of Caherwalter, and having considered the Report dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 2001, Galway County Council in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(3) of Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1963, as amended by Section 39 (d) of Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 1976, as amended by Section 45 of the Local Government Act, 1991 hereby require that a decision to grant permission be made in the case of this application.

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

**AR SON:** Dep. U. Burke, Cllr. J. Callanan, Dep. P. Connaughton, Cllrs. M. Connolly, J. Conneely, M. Fahy, S. Gavin, N. Grealish, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, J. Joyce, M. Loughnane, J.J. Mannion, T. Mannion, J. McClearn, Sen. J. McDonagh, Cllrs. P. McHugh, T. McHugh, Comh. C. Ni Fhatharta, P. O Foighil, Cllrs. P. Sullivan, K. Quinn, T. Walsh. (23)

**IN AGHAIDH:** NIL

**GAN VOTÁIL:** NIL



**DISPOSAL OF LANDS**

1287

**Sale of Land at Oranmore in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946.**

This item was deferred to the next Meeting.

**DATE FOR CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING**

1288

The Members agreed to hold a Corporate Policy Group Meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2001 at 3.30 p.m.

**ESTIMATES MEETING IN RESPECT OF ESTIMATES 2002**

1289

On the proposal of Cllr. Loughnane, seconded by Cllr. Joyce the Members agreed to hold the Estimates Meeting in respect of the Estimates 2002 on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2001.

**RAISING OF LOAN FROM HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY**

1290

Report dated 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2001 was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Joyce, seconded by Cllr. Connolly the Council agreed, in accordance with the Local Government Act (No.2) 1960, to raise a loan of £5m from the Housing Finance Agency plc for the purposes authorised under the Housing Acts.

**AUDIT REPORT ON ACCOUNTS OF RIVER FERGUS JOINT DRAINAGE COMMITTEE**

1291

Report dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Callanan the Council noted the auditors report of River Fergus Joint Drainage Committee.

**RIBBON DEVELOPMENT**

1292

Mr. L. Kavanagh responded to the written proposal submitted by Dep. U. Burke, recommending that the current County Development Plan be varied for the reasons stated in his proposal. Copies of the proposal and response had been circulated to the members. Mr. Kavanagh addressed the different points contained in Dep. Burke's proposal, namely:

- The restrictive nature of current interpretation and application of Section 7.212 of the County Development Plan by planning officials.

- The present application and interpretation of the County Development Plan is at total variance with the Councillors stated policy intentions.
- If the rural population is to be sustained, resettlement has to be part of this process and resettlement cannot happen under the present interpretation of the Plan.
- The need to respond to the needs of families and planning applicants who work in an area and want to live in this rural environment.
- The sustainability of our local Sporting Clubs, which is seriously affected by rural population.
- Retention of the elderly in the rural areas, rather than urbanisation.
- Freedom of Choice
- The fact that family lands, where available as gifts, can ease the burden of the high cost of housing for young couples.

He stated that the County Development Plan is being correctly interpreted, and referred to planning statistics, which had been circulated, that indicated that the Council are granting a significant number of houses in rural areas under the current Plan. He rejected the notion that the Development Plan is responsible for rural decline, pointing out that decline in rural population is closely aligned with weak urban structure. He stated that the Development Plan is interpreted and applied by the Planning Authority in accordance with the policies and objectives stated in the Plan and that any policies or opinions not included in the Plan cannot be included in this interpretation.

Each case is considered on its merit. He stated that the Plan is more lenient on one-off housing development than current National Policy would appear to indicate as being appropriate. Rural de-population can best be reversed by providing a strong interlinked network of rural towns and villages, providing a range of economic opportunity, services, and social outlets sufficient to enable people in rural communities to remain there.

He stated that each application for permission within the one and a half mile restrictive zones was given consideration on the merits of the particular case put forward, and that while the case of care for the elderly is a complex issue, there is nothing in the one and a half mile zone objective that makes this difficult issue any the more difficult. Under the present Plan, even in those restricted areas where the one and a half mile zone ribbonization objective applies, nobody deriving their income from agriculture is excluded, and they are allowed freedom of choice to remain in these rural areas. Referring to the suggestion that the use of family lands, given as gifts, and which could ease the burden of the high cost of housing for young couples, he stated that the inclusion of such a provision in the Development Plan would effectively mean that all rural lands within the County could be sold as development land, that this would contravene current National Policy, and be impossible to administer, leading to uncontrolled rural housing. Mr. Ridge referred to the Planning statistics for 2001 to date, a report on which had been circulated to members. He stated that the average refusal rate of 11.6% is well below the National average of 17.9%.

He stated that the Council had granted permission for 3,308 housing units in rural areas to date in 2001, and that at present the Council has 1,069 hectares of zoned residential development land, which using a density of 25 units per hectare, will accommodate

26,725 housing units. Based on an occupancy rate of 2.2 persons this will house 59,000 persons, and this alone will house all the population growth in the county including Galway City, for the next 15 years. He stated that these figures refuted the allegation that development control is too restrictive. He stated that there was not a need to remove the ribbonization clause from the Plan, but that any changes should go through the normal review procedures.

Dep. U. Burke stated that the difference in interpretation between officials and members had to be eliminated, and that members have noted a change by planning officials in their interpretation of what constitutes ribbonization. He formally proposed a variation of the County Development Plan whereby the general objectives of the current County Development Plan as set out in section 7.212 "Control Ribbon Development in Rural areas" be removed for the reasons stated in his written submission.

In the discussion which followed, members made the following points regarding the proposed variation of the Development Plan: -

- The interpretation of Section 7.212 by officials is totally unreasonable and at variance with the wishes and understanding of members at the time that section of the Plan was agreed and the Plan adopted.
- The interpretation of the Section has changed mid-stream during the life of the current Plan.
- A person living in an area for up to 50 years may not be entitled to planning permission under the current provisions of the Plan.
- The provisions of the Plan apply equally to areas around Galway City as they do to outlying villages and towns, where entirely different situation exists.
- If An Taisce appeal all one-off housing development, as reported, this will cause major problems.
- 3 new houses in outlying areas could be as important economically as 700 would be to Galway City.
- East Galway is suffering from rural decline, with many parishes having no towns or villages.
- Officials who deal with these problems don't live in the rural area and are cushioned from its effects.
- Why does the Plan put people into villages and towns, but does not provide proper services?
- The Clár report shows the declining population in County Galway, and while the decline is not all the fault of the Council or the Development Plan, the next Plan should take on board these figures.
- The Development Plan should protect and enhance the entitlement of people to get planning permission in their own area.
- Members do not want to damage the environment but to sustain rural areas.
- The National Spatial Strategy does not reflect the situation in the West of Ireland.
- Development restrictions based on speed limits is wrong.

- The objectives seem to be to denude rural areas and bring people into larger towns and villages leading to traffic problems, underdeveloped services and social problems.
- To what extent can planning officials use their discretion in determining whether to grant or not to grant permission.
- If the one and a half mile development restrictions is revoked, an alternative proposal needs to be agreed.

Mr. Ridge, in reply to the points made by the members, stated that he understood the importance of this issue to members and was in agreement with most of the comments made by members. He stated that the structural weaknesses in the County were not as a result of development control. The National Spatial Strategy will have positive implications for the whole county and there is a need to see improvements in the areas suffering rural population decline. The Department of the Environment and Local Government has already been informed that towns and villages must get infrastructure and services, and the failure to have proper infrastructural services led to rural depopulation, not as a result of development control. The Council are at present giving permission for more than double the number of houses being developed. He stated that the few cases quoted where the Planning Department has been restrictive is low. He stated that policy is quite clearly laid out, and Officials have not got a right to interpret the policy as they see fit, that the requirements followed are statutory and do not allow use of discretion.

There are large parts of the County in which there are very few restrictions on development, and he contended that there is a need for social integration of towns and villages to attract industry, that the towns and villages are seen as being the backbone of rural Galway. Referring to the Clar report he stated the figures given are from 1926 and that most of the decline predates Development Control. He noted that while there are little restrictions except in a few areas the Officials would take into account the wishes of people wishing to live in their own area when the review of the Development Plan takes place.

The County Manager stated that the decline in population was not due to the Councils actions but was due to the structural changes in the rural areas. The Department accept that more money is needed to be spent to bring infrastructure up to standard and to attract investment to rural areas, and following rural development houses will follow. He suggested that the members agree to appoint a committee which would meet and work out an agreed clarification on the issues raised. Following further discussion members agreed to defer the motion on the understanding that progress would be made on the matter within a short time frame. It was agreed that the Committee would consist of the Cathaoirleach, Dep. U. Burke, Cllr. S. Walsh and Cllr. P. McHugh and they would agree the time scale for an outcome to their discussions.

**NATIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY –**  
**Indications for the Way Ahead**

1293

Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 was circulated to each Member.

The County Manager explained that the N.S.S. document circulated to the Members was a discussion document. He said that the vast majority of the population of the country was in the Eastern region/Greater Dublin area. With the increase in the number of cars on the road, journey times have lengthened with a consequent pressure on the roads infrastructure. Up to this, a greater proportion of available funding has been directed towards the cities and larger towns. The aims of the N.S.S. include: -

- (i) The redistribution of jobs and population from the Eastern region.
- (ii) Examining ways in which funding for smaller towns and villages can be sourced.

Mr. Gavin said that the National Spatial Strategy is intended to provide an overall framework for dealing with spatial issues sustainably. Balanced regional development is central to the N.S.S.

Cllr. Joyce said that he felt that it would be difficult for the town of Ballinasloe to survive and compete with Athlone and Tullamore in attracting industry. Cllr. McClearn said that the State Agencies had failed to bring industry to the towns and villages in Galway. Cllr. P. McHugh said that forward planning, with substance, was necessary. The majority of industry is based in Galway City and is causing the roads to be clogged with traffic every day. The IDA promoted Galway City but should have also included Tuam and Ballinasloe.

The County Manager said that there is a strategy to change this and create a better balance. He said that there was more money available and that the Council should buy land for small enterprises. He said that there was tourism potential in East Galway and that Mr. Enda Thompson had been appointed as tourism co-ordinator. He said that, with the agreement of the Members, the Council would make a formal submission in relation to the N.S.S. by the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2001.

**POLICY TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR**  
**ALL COUNCILLORS**

1294

A copy of Circular Letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2001, from DoELG was circulated to each Member. Mr. Murphy said that the I.P.A. have now informed the Council that the next training seminar for this region, on the planning function, will be held in January 2002. The Members will be informed when further details come to hand.

**CHAIRMANS BUSINESS**

1295

In reply to a query by Cllr. Hoade on the guidelines for erecting telephone masts, the Cathaoirleach said that this matter was being dealt with by the Planning and Development Strategic Policy Committee.

In reply to Cllr. Hoade, Mr. Morgan said that the speed limits for non-national roads would be available within the next couple of weeks.

**CONFERENCES**

1296

On the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Sullivan, 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: -

**Legislation for a Tobacco-free Society, Dublin Castle – 31<sup>st</sup> Oct – 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov, 2001**

Senator J. McDonagh	Deputy P. Connaughton	Cllr. M. Loughnane
Cllr. J. Callanan	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan	Cllr. P. O Foighil
Cllr. M. Mullins	Cllr. M. Regan	

**Clare Tourism Conference – Ennistymon – 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2001**

Senator J. McDonagh	Cllr. J. Joyce	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan
Cllr. M. Hoade	Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Mullins
Cllr. T. Walsh		

**L.A.M.A. Conference – Monaghan – 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> November 2001**

Senator J. McDonagh	Cllr. J. Callanan	Cllr. M. Fahy
Cllr. C. Ni Fhatharta	Cllr. T. Mannion	Cllr. P. O'Sullivan
Cllr. M. Hoade	Cllr. P. McHugh	Cllr. M. Connolly
Cllr. P. Hynes	Cllr. T. McHugh	Cllr. T. Walsh
Cllr. M. Regan		

**Supporting Community Initiatives – Kilkee – 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> October 2001**

Cllr. M. Mullins

**Muintir na Tire Conference – Enfield, Co. Meath – 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2001**

Deputy P. Connaughton

**N.O.M. NO. 14 – RATES – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON**

1297

Minute No. 1285 refers to this matter.

**N.O.M. NO. 15 – ROADS – DEP. P. CONNAUGHTON** 1298

The following reply was given to Dep. Connaughton: -

*"The matter will be attended to in the coming 2002 surface dressing season."*

**N.O.M. NO. 16 – ROUNDABOUTS – CLLR. M. CUNNINGHAM** 1299

The following reply was given to Cllr. Cunningham: -

*"These roundabouts can be considered in the next N.R.A. lining contract."*

**N.O.M. NO. 17 – ENVIRONMENT – CLLR. M. FAHY** 1300

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy: -

*"I wish to inform you that an order for a Bottle Bank will be placed with Rehab and should be put in place in the village of Craughwell shortly."*

**N.O.M. NO. 18 – D.P. GRANT – CLLR. M. FAHY** 1301

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy: -

*"An application for the carrying out of roof repairs to the property under the Essential Repairs Grant was refused as the house was not deemed to be unfit."*

*The carrying out of roof repairs does not qualify under the Disabled Person Grant.*

*However, the applicant is being reviewed to see if assistance can be provided in relation to the upgrading of existing dwelling to accommodate the disability."*

**N.O.M. NO. 19 – LIGHTING – CLLR. M. FAHY** 1302

The following reply was given to Cllr. Fahy: -

*"This item could be considered if you wish to allocate your lighting allocation to same. Two lights are needed, one at Croshoa Junction and one at the Old Church adjacent to the junction."*

**N.O.M. NO. 20 – ROADS – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE** 1303

The following reply was given to Cllr. Loughnane: -

*"Galway County Council have no funds to carry out such works."*

*An estimate for the cost of the works will be obtained. The matter has been referred to the Director of Roads and Transportation.*

**N.O.M. NO. 21 – LIGHTING – CLLR. M. LOUGHNANE 1304**

The following reply was given to Cllr. Loughnane: -

*"These lights could be provided for under the Councillors Notice of Motion Public Lighting funds."*

**N.O.M. NO. 22 – PLANNING – SEN. J. McDONAGH 1305**

The following reply was given to Sen. McDonagh: -

*"Galway County Council propose to undertake village plans for such villages as Lackagh. This plan will commence early in 2002."*

**N.O.M. NO. 23 – FLOODING – SEN. J. McDONAGH 1306**

The following reply was given to Sen. McDonagh: -

*"It appears the flooding problem in question is being caused by unauthorised filling of private lands. Galway County Council has served a notice on the relevant landowners directing them to rectify and cease filling of lands. On resolution of this issue, we can proceed to rectify the flooding."*

**N.O.M. NO. 24 – SIGNPOSTING – SEN. J. McDONAGH 1307**

The following reply was given to Sen. McDonagh: -

*"The provision of an Advance Direction Sign at the intersection of the N63 and N17 indicating the villages of Lackagh and Turloughmore would not comply with Department of Environment recommendations."*

**N.O.M. NO. 25 – WATER – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA 1308**

The following reply was given to Comh. Ni Fhatharta: -

*"Tá iontaobhaithe an scéim uisce seo ag feitheamh ar cáipéisí tairisceana ón innealltóir comhairleach agus ní féidir aon dul chun chinn a dhéanamh sula bhfaigheann siad iad."*



**N.O.M. NO. 26 – BEACHES – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA**

**1309**

The following reply was given to Comh. Ni Fhatharta: -

*“Ba choir go mbeadh áiseanna éagsula i láthair ar na tránna, chomh maith le uisce glan, chun brath gorm a fháil agus nil an ciste ann chun na háiseanna seo, mar shampla leithris, boithre, áit phairceála a chur ar fáil ar tránna breise.”*

**N.O.M. NO. 27 – G.W.S. – COMH. C. NI FHATHARTA**

**1310**

The following reply was given to Comh. Ni Fhatharta: -

*“Sa ngearrthréimhse tá £100,000 ar fáil i 2002 chun feabhsúcháin a dhéanamh ar an gcóras atá ann faoi láthair. San bhfadthréimhse tá ceantair na Ceathrún Rua san áireamh i scéim mór atá molta do dheisceart Chonamara agus tá an Chomhairle ag feitheamh le freagra ón Roinn Comhshaoil maidir leis an scéim sin.”*

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted Approved & Signed

M. A. Kelly

30/11/01.

Date