



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Loughrea Town Council

Minutes

11 January 2010 – 12 May 2014

LTC/1/26

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LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

11th Jan 2010 - 12th May 2014

LTC/1/26 7c/1/26

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 14th April, 2014, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Baile Locha Riach
Loughrea Town Council

Chair: Cllr. J. Regan

Members: Cllr's. N. Morgan, S. Burke, P. Healy, J. Curley, G. Burke

Deputies: E. Muiryan, Acting Senior Executive Officer, Loughrea Town Council

Apologies: Cllr. M. Maher, Cllr. M. Gunter



**BAILE LOCHA RIACH
LOUGHREA**

**Tel: 091 870692
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Deputation: Loughrea Town Hall

Mayor Regan welcomed the Deputation consisting of Mr. Tony Callahan and Mr. Brian ... on behalf of ... Committee. Mayor Regan outlined the procedure for receiving deputations.

A Chara,

Mr. Cronin then thanked the meeting for receiving the deputation on behalf of ... He stated that they are ... to gain support and have Loughrea Town Hall redeveloped as a ... functional space for use by the community. He stated that the Town Hall has been an intrinsic part of ... quality for over 100 years. He stated that unfortunately over the last decade the Town Hall has ... has formed a ... hole in the ...

The Monthly Meeting of the above Council was held on Monday 12th May, 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea for the purpose of transacting the Ordinary and Financial Business of the Council

The minutes of the meeting my not have been recorded or cannot be traced.

Signed:

J. Cullen

**Jim Cullen,
Director of Services,
Galway County Council.**

Galway County Council Archives

Mr. Cronin stated that ... group has ... talks with St. Brendan's CEDA Union and they are amenable ... pending submit ... Plan. Mr. Cronin states that LARC was ... to put together Business Plan as ... stated they ... access to information on the building as they are working in a void.

Mr. Cronin stated that LARC promise to accommodate as many people as possible. He finished by stating that ... is a historic occasion as Loughrea Town Council which has served this community for over 100 years will be ... more after next month's meeting. He said he is asking Loughrea Town Council to leave a legacy where they will be remembered and honored, namely the Town Hall. Mr. Cronin thanked everyone for listening to his presentation.

Mayor Regan asked if there were any questions from the members.

LTC/1/26

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 14th April, 2014, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Mayor: Cllr. J. Regan

Members: Cllr's. N. Morgan, S. Burke, P. Hynes, G. Bane, J. Curley, G. Burke

Officials: E. Mulryan, Acting Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. M. Maher, Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix, Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services

Deputation: LARC: Loughrea Town Hall

Mayor Regan welcomed the Deputation consisting of Mr. Tony Callanan and Mr. Daniel Cronin on behalf of LARC Committee. Mayor Regan outlined the procedure for receiving Deputations.

Mr. Cronin then thanked the meeting for receiving the deputation on behalf of LARC and stated that they are hoping to gain support and have Loughrea Town Hall redeveloped as a multifunctional space for use by the community. He stated that the Town Hall has been an intrinsic part of the community for over 80 years. He stated that unfortunately over the last decade the Town Hall has been idled and has formed a gaping hole in the fabric of our Town, it is hoped that with the support of Councillors here present it can again become a focal point for Arts, Culture and Heritage, it is a space sorely lacking in our community.

LARC was set up last September on the basis of making a submission to Galway County Council on the Part 8 Planning Permission for the redevelopment of the Town Hall, twenty community groups are represented including dramatic, artistic, dance and musical interest groups from the Town and surrounding areas, young and old are represented ranging from Loughrea Youth project, youth theatres to the active retirement group who are seeking a suitable space to utilize as at the moment some are relegated to back rooms of pubs.

Mr. Cronin stated that the actions so far of LARC are: group formed in August 2013, September 2013 made submission on behalf of 20 groups to Galway County Council on the Part 8 Planning for Loughrea Town Hall and contacted all local Councillors for their support. In November 2013, LARC wrote to Kevin Kelly, Director of Services requesting clarification on Planning application and copied Martina Moloney, County Manager and Jim Cullen, Director of Services no reply has been received to date, have met with Senator Lorraine Higgins who has given support and Ciaran Cannon TD who asked us to formulate Business Plan. In December 2013 received acknowledgement of planning submission.

Mr. Cronin stated that the LARC group has had talks with St. Brendan's Credit Union and they are amenable pending submitting a business Plan. Mr. Cronin stated that LARC are at pains to put together Business Plan as he stated they need access to information on the building as they are working in a void.

Mr. Cronin stated that LARC promise to accommodate as many people as possible. He finished by stating that this is a historic occasion as Loughrea Town Council which has served this community for over 100 years will be no more after next month's meeting. He said he is asking Loughrea Town Council to leave a legacy where they will be remembered and honored, namely the Town Hall. Mr. Cronin thanked everyone for listening to his presentation.

Mayor Regan asked if there were any questions from the members.

Cllr. Hynes asked Mr. Cronin to clarify if no response was received from Galway County Council, Mr. Cronin stated that they received an acknowledgement from the Planning Department on the submission made in relation to the Part 8 Planning Application for the Town Hall.

Cllr. Bane, thanked the deputation for their passionate speech, and said she was regretful that they hadn't heard it sooner; she asked what needs to happen from their side. Mr. Callanan stated that due to lack of information, they are finding it difficult to put together a Business Plan.

Cllr. Curley stated that he agrees with Cllr. Bane, he said it was a pity Mr. Cullen was not present as he is the one behind the project and trying to move it forward, but unfortunately Mr. Cullen is out of the Country.

Cllr. G. Burke stated he was also in agreement with Cllr. Curley, he advised that Galway County Council have applied for funding from Galway Rural Development, and Loughrea Town Council have committed €150,000 but there will still be a shortfall.

Mr. Cronin stated that when LARC received acknowledgement for submission made, it stated that the majority of submissions were in support of Town Hall renovation. Mr. Cronin stated that for LARC that is not a true statement.

Mr. Mulryan outlined that the Part 8 Planning Application Process for the Town Hall was carried out in accordance with the Planning & Development Act of 2000. This statutory process involves the Council placing the Planning Application & associated documentation (drawing, specifications etc) on public display, all submissions/observations received by the date specified are collated into a report and brought before the elected members of the Council at a Council Meeting. The Councillors can approve the Part 8 Planning Application as proposed, can approve with modifications or refuse the planning application. Mr. Mulryan stated that the Part 8 Planning Application for Loughrea Town Hall was approved by Councillors at the October, 2013 meeting.

Cllr. Bane asked that Loughrea Town Council request Mr. Cullen to meet with delegation from LARC. Mayor Regan proposed that Loughrea Town Council seek a special meeting with Martina Moloney, County Manager. Mr. Dolly stated that the item can be placed on the Agenda for the May meeting of Loughrea Town Council where Mr. Cullen will be present; he stated that he will examine and brief Mr. Cullen in advance of the next meeting.

The deputation then left the meeting.

Mayor Regan stated that the members are not happy to wait and want to meet with the County Manager.

Cllr. Bane stated that Loughrea Town Council should request a meeting with the County Manager and if she deems that inappropriate we will accept that, but she is encouraging Loughrea Town Council to seek a meeting.

Mayor Regan proposed that a meeting be sought with the County Manager, seconded by Cllr. Curley.

Cllr. Bane clarified that the request for a meeting is to include the Deputation from LARC.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 10th March, 2014.

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. Curley the minutes of the March monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Final Event Loughrea Town Council

Cllr. Bane advised in relation to the final event for Loughrea Town Council, photographs have been requested of previous Mayors to frame and put in place in the Chamber, there will be a plaque erected outside the building, and a plaque in the Chamber listing Chairpersons and Mayors of Loughrea Town Commissioners and Loughrea Town Council, Ms. Hughes circulated a listing which has been researched dating to 1888 and asked members to examine same and advise here if there are any errors or additional information which may be available.

Mayor Regan asked that if any members have any information or photographs on Loughrea Town Council if they could make it available.

Cllr. Bane advised that the Dinner has been arranged for 18th May, 2014 and Ms. Hughes has a list of attendees if Councillors could examine same to ensure the list is correct.

Gort Road

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that he will have the matter investigated.

Outdoor Gym – Fairgreen, Loughrea

Cllr. Bane, congratulated all those involved in putting the Outdoor Gym in place at The Fairgreen, Loughrea.

2. Annual Financial Statement 2013

Cllr. Burke asked if there was Tennis Club rent owing to Loughrea Town Council, Ms. Hughes advised that there is outstanding rent for 2013 which will be collected in 2014.

In reply to Cllr. Morgan, Ms. Hughes advised that the rent for Loughrea Town Council house at the close of 2013 was in credit.

On the proposal of Cllr. Norman seconded by Cllr. Curley the Annual Financial Statement for 2013 was approved.

Cllr. Bane asked what the position is with the School Warden whose salary is paid from Loughrea Town Council funds currently. Mr. Mulryan advised that the funding of the School Warden is expected to be assumed by Galway County Council.

Proposed by Mayor Regan and seconded by Cllr. Bane to seek clarification from Galway County Council that the position of School Warden will be retained.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Ballina Town Council – Notice of Motion adopted:

"That this Council calls on the Minister for State for Public Reform and the Office of Public works to make available to people living in areas which suffer from flooding a grant which would allow them to put proper Floodgate Systems in place; that this Motion is circulated to all Town Councils for their support"

Proposed to support, Cllr. G. Burke

Letter from Iggy Clarke – Hall of Fame event 14th March, 2014. Thank you letter from Iggy Clarke re. letter of congratulations sent by Loughrea Town Council. **Noted by Councillors.**

Correspondence was circulated at the meeting:

Letter from Ballina Town Council – Notice of Motion adopted “In the light of recent Department of Environment statements claiming that local property tax bringing in 1.5 million daily, and the government commitment to return 80% of monies collected to the local authorities, we call on the government to end the embargo of recruitment of council staff, and thus help to create real meaning full jobs and provide vital services for an over taxed population. We also call on the Department of Environment to scrap the 'gateway scheme', as it is nothing but cheap labour, to replace the 25% of local authority workers laid off since 2011” **Noted by Councillors.**

Proposal from Loughrea Family and Community Resource Centre - Agreed to defer this item until May 2014 meeting.

4. Notice of Motions (Cllr. Norman Morgan)

I will propose:

- a. That a recommendation be sent to Galway County Council: That lands flooded in County Galway during recent Winter 2013/2014 be registered as lands where Planning Permissions will not be granted, unless conditions such as major drainage have been carried out and said land have been declared safe. Seconded by Cllr. Bane.
- b. That a recommendation be sent to the Government “That Driving, while smoking, in vehicles on public roads be banned”.

5. Any Other Business

Bride Street

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that part of this road is included in the Multi Annual Roadworks Programme for 2015.

The Grove

Cllr. Bane raised the issue of tree's being cut and timber removed from the Grove, Mr. Mulryan advised that he was not aware of such activities & would investigate the compliant and asked if any member had information on the matter could they bring it to his attention.

Ard Breeda Housing Estate Loughrea

Mayor Regan advised that he and other Town Councillors attended at meeting with Residents of Ard Breeda Estate recently, there are major issues in the Estate, he stated that there was no bond in place. Mayor Regan stated that there is a Camera Survey to be done on the Sewerage System at a cost of approximately €3,000 there is also a problem with the entrance to the estate.

Cllr. Hynes stated that the issue is ongoing for a number of years, he has spoken to Planning previously on this, and he was willing to allocate money from his Notice of Motion money but is not permitted to do so by the Council, therefore the residents will have to raise funds themselves.

Mayor Regan stated that individuals living in the estate are now left with a major liability. Mayor Regan stated that he has requested to meet with the County Manager with a deputation from the Estate.

Mr. Dolly advised that he will formally request clarification on the matter from Galway County Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

Mayor James Regan

Date: _____

12/5/14

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 10th March, 2014, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Mayor: Cllr. J. Regan

Members: Cllr's. M. Maher, N. Morgan, S. Burke, M. Gunter-Nix, P. Hynes, G. Bane, J. Curley, G. Burke

Officials: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services, Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Mr. E. Mulryan, Acting Senior Executive Engineer

Mayor Regan stated that he is not happy that the Town Council is to be abolished, and the town and hinterland will be let down as regards public representation. He has given considerable thought and decided to go forward and stand as an Independent Candidate in the forthcoming election.

2. Correspondence

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 10th February, 2014.

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. Nix the minutes of the February monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Final Event Loughrea Town Council

Cllr. G. Burke asked if there was any update on the Final event planned for the Town Council. Cllr. Nix proposed that Councillors meet in the coming week to finalise event.

Outdoor Gym – Fairgreen, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Ms. Hughes advised that the final two pieces of equipment are due to be put in place in the next week or two, the project was delayed due to flooding.

Town Hall

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that the Project Engineer is in discussion with the Design Team and it will be decided if it will be necessary to go to procurement for the remainder of design, it may not be necessary will need to see what requirements there are.

Cllr. Bane stated that she was concerned that the project has stalled, Loughrea Town Council have €150,000 committed and is wondering if the project is just going to be left after being brought to a particular standard.

Mr. Cullen stated that the money is committed to the development of the Town Hall only. In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Cullen stated that hopefully the full project will be completed as explained previously, he stated that he will be asking the Design Team to structure the tender so that it can be completed in two phases, where a certain amount of absolute necessary work can be done and if leader funding is made available this year the full project can be completed. Mr. Cullen advised that he decided rather than wait for all funding to be in place he is proceeding to tender stage to establish the cost for the long term of the building with a Tourism Centre downstairs and incubator spaces upstairs for start up business, Mr. Cullen re-iterated that the money

committed is for the Town Hall project only. In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Cullen stated that as outlined previously the project will be taken all the way to Tender Stage and it will then only go ahead if all the strands of funding are in place. Mr. Cullen stated that if it is the view of the Town Council that they want to de-commit the €150,000 for the Town Hall, the project will not proceed.

Cllr. Hynes thanked Mr. Cullen for his clarification and the way in which he is dealing with the project. He said he believes that the Loughrea Town Hall will be a Community & Multi Cultural Centre and he believes that Mr. Cullen has the interests of the people of Loughrea in mind.

Cllr. Nix stated that she feels whoever is elected to Galway County Council should give it their priority when elected to the area. Cllr. Nix stated that she would like to applaud Mr. Cullen's tireless endeavor to refurbish the Town Hall.

Cllr. G. Burke asked Mr. Cullen if he was in discussion with other Group. Mr. Cullen stated that the Heritage Company have available funding and have committed same.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Press Release – Iggy Clarke – Hall of Fame event 14th March, 2014. Cllr. G. Burke proposed that the Town Council should be represented at the event. Seconded by Cllr. Maher, he suggested that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor should attend. Cllr. Hynes gave his support and stated that Iggy Clarke brought honor and glory to County Galway. Cllr. Bane asked that Loughrea Town Council write officially to Iggy Clarke to congratulate him on his sporting achievements and also what he achieved while in Loughrea, in particular the contribution he made to the youth of Loughrea.

3. Any Other Business

Manholes at The Hill, Loughrea

Cllr. Nix stated that there is a manhole at the Hill, Loughrea which is very noisy and asked that it be repaired.

Gort Road

Cllr. G. Burke stated that along the edge of the Gort Road from Coscorrigh for about half a mile, is displaying signs of subsidence and beginning to break up, he asked that this be investigated.

Barrack Street Loughrea

Cllr. G. Burke stated that outside the Temperance Hall has been left in bad condition after works there.

Lake Road

Cllr. Maher stated that the Lake Road has been left in poor condition following recent utility installation works and he asked that this matter be raised with the utility provider.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: James Regan

Date: 14/4/14

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 10th February, 2014, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Mayor: Cllr. J. Regan

Members: Cllrs. M. Maher, N. Morgan, Cllr. S. Burke, M. Gunter-Nix, P. Hynes, G. Bane

Officials: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services, Mr. E. Mulryan, Exec Engineer, Ms. L. Hughes, T.C.

Apologies: Cllrs. J. Curley, G. Burke

Resolution of Sympathy

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the Halpin family on the tragic death of Patrick Halpin. Mayor Regan asked that we remember in our prayers Cllr. Jimmy Curley.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 13th January, 2013.

On the proposal of Cllr. Maher seconded by Cllr. Nix the minutes of the January monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Mr. Cullen extended his thanks for the resolution of sympathy at the January meeting on the death of his mother, and for the Mass card which he received.

Outdoor Gym – Fairgreen, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that there are minor works to be complete. He also advised that quotations for the repairs to footway and gate have been received and he is currently seeking funding to complete these works.

Final Event Loughrea Town Council

Cllr. Bane advised the meeting that the following ideas were discussed at a meeting of the Town Councillors with regard to the final events for Loughrea Town Councillors.

Plaque sand blasted onto wall of Loughrea Regional Office recognising past and present councillors of Loughrea Town Council/ Town Commissioners.

Unveil plaque at final Town Council meeting and invite public to attend.

Listing and photographs of previous Chairpersons/Majors present on wall in Council Chamber.

18th May – Dinner for past & present members and staff of Loughrea Town Council/Town Commissioners.

Mr. Cullen stated that he felt the idea of a plaque to have a permanent acknowledgement of Loughrea Town Council and Town Commissioners was very appropriate. Cllr. Morgan stated that he was not in agreement with this, Mr. Cullen stated that it was a matter for Galway County Council. Cllr. Nix suggested that the archives be researched and data and photographs be collated in DVD format and shown to the public. Cllr Bane stated that there is a large amount of research to be undertaken.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Date: 10/3/14

Letter from Ballina Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted – “ That Ballina Town Council calls on the Minister for Finance to revoke the solid fuel carbon tax due to the dependency of the vast majority of Irish families using this source of heating; that this Motion is circulated to all Town Councils for their support “ **Proposed to support, Cllr. Nix, Seconded Cllr. Hynes .**

3. Any Other Business

Footway improvement works Loughrea Town

Mr. Mulryan circulated the schedule of footway improvement works along with Site layout maps showing works to be undertaken in Loughrea. Mr. Mulryan went through the proposed works in order of priority;

| |
|--|
| Site No 1 - R446 The Hill/Dublin Road Loughrea |
| Site No 2 - L8198 Station Road Loughrea |
| Site No 3 - L4213 Cross Street Loughrea |
| Site No 4 - Fahy Gardens Housing Estate Loughrea |
| Section 5 - N66 Westbridge Loughrea |
| Section 6 - L4228 Barrack Street Loughrea |
| Site No 7 - L4224 Old Galway Road Loughrea |

Cllr. Regan stated in relation to Site No. 2, Station Road, Loughrea, that this path has already been repaired, Mr. Mulryan advised that the cobble stone pavement will be removed, unsuitable material replaced with granular hardcore material and the cobbles subsequently re-laid. Cllr. Nix asked if the width of the footpath was being increased, Mr. Mulryan advised that the widths would not be increased. Cllr. Maher asked if any of the works do not go ahead can Abbey Terrace be included. Cllr. Regan asked if works could be awarded locally, Mr. Mulryan advised that procurement rules must be followed.

Manholes at Kilboys

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that E-net are responsible and he will make further contact with them on the matter.

Town Hall

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that he has asked team to proceed to tender stage with the Town Hall project. He stated that the Engineer involved has advised that Galway County Council will also have to go to procurement for the Design Team which may push back the project by 8 to 9 weeks. He stated that as part of the tendering process he will be proposing that works can be completed in two stages, so that all essential works could be prioritised to prevent further deterioration of the building.

Cllr. Hynes stated that the project will have to be complete bearing in mind the funding put in place, Mr. Cullen stated that the €150,000 allocated from Loughrea Town Council is to be used for Loughrea Town Hall and nothing else. In reply to Cllr. Hynes, Mr. Cullen stated that the next tranche of funding from Galway Rural Development is to be decided this year. Cllr. Hynes thanked Mr. Cullen for his positive attitude towards the Loughrea Town Hall project.

Cllr. Regan stated that the AMAI do not have clarification on what will happen with regards to gratuities if Town Councillors get elected to County/City Councils. AMAI are to write to the Minister to seek clarification.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed Walter Regan Date: 10/3/14

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 13th January, 2014, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Mayor: Cllr. J. Regan

Members: Cllrs. M. Maher, N. Morgan, G. Burke, M. Gunter-Nix, P. Hynes, G. Bane

Officials: Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer, Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services, Cllr. S. Burke, Cllr. J. Curley

Resolution of Sympathy

A resolution of sympathy was extended to Mr. Jim Cullen on the death of his mother Mrs. May Cullen. Mayor Regan asked that we remember in our prayers all those who died tragically since our last meeting.

Mayor Regan asked that we remember our colleague Cllr. Jimmy Curley who is ill in hospital.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 9th December, 2013.

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. G. Burke the minutes of the budget meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 9th December, 2013.

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. G. Burke the minutes of the December monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Loughrea Post Office

In reply to Mayor Regan, Ms. Hughes advised that she had been in contact with Loughrea Post Office, who have advised that three additional part time staff have been employed.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Longford Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted – “That the members of Longford Town Council call on AMAI to challenge the recently published Local Government Bill as it is a direct attack on local democracy and goes against the core principles of the European Charter of Local Self Government” **Proposed to support Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix.** Cllr. Burke asked if there was any further information from the AMAI in relation to the abolishment of the Town Council and setting up of the new Municipal Districts, in reply Mayor Regan advised that the Minister has not yet clarified a lot of issues in relation to abolishment of Town Councils and new Municipal Districts. Following discussion it was agreed to seek up date if available from Mr. Cullen at the February meeting.

Letter from Passage West Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted – “ This Town Council proposes that the relevant Derelict Sites Legislation be amended to facilitate an increase in the levy applied to properties included on the Derelict Sites Register from 3% to 10%” **Noted by Councillors**

Letter from Killarney Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted - "That in relation to the fluoridation of the public water supply we call on Government to do one of the following, which are given in the order of priority (1) to desist from adding fluoride to the public water supply, (2) to hold a referendum on the question within the next eighteen months, (3) to submit the question to the Constitutional Convention for consideration. If passed we wish to circulate the motion to all Councils with a view to having it passed in their assemblies" **Noted by Councillors, Proposed to support Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix.**

Letter from Leixlip Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted - " Leixlip Town Council communicates to the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources Mr. Pat Rabbitte and relevant councils and town councils in the country its disquiet with the plans of ESB networks to install new pylons throughout the country. In recent months Leixlip has borne witness to the lack of social awareness of the ESB, a state organisation, in particular two events have brought the indifference of this organisation to public attention in Leixlip.

1. The realignment of pylons at the back of Glen Easton and the manner in which the high tension cables were brought closer to the houses
2. The prolonged delay in restoring power to the public lighting along the R449 from the M4 motorway to the Maynooth Road and back to Easton Road" **Noted by Councillors**

Letter from Bantry Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted "That Bantry Town Council have decided to seek a plebiscite from the people of Bantry to give them a say, not given to them by government, regarding the future of Bantry Town Council. We ask for the opinion of all Town Councils and encourage them to consider seeking a similar plebiscite." **Noted by Councillors , Proposed to support Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix.**

Notice of LAMA Spring Seminar 2014 – 31st January, - 1st February, 2014. Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan. **Noted by Councillors**

Notice of TJK Conferences Ltd - Seminars /Conferences for Councillors Pre-Local Elections 2014 – January, February, March, 2014 – 31st January, - 1st February, 2014. Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan. **Noted by Councillors**

4. Any Other Business

Outdoor Gym – Fairgreen, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Mulryan advised that it is intended to start works in the coming week and it is hoped to have the works complete by the first week in February, there are to be 9 pieces of equipment each with individual bases adjoining the existing footpath. Cllr. Maher asked if the gate into the playground which is currently locked can be opened, Mr. Mulryan advised that he will investigate the matter.

Final Event Loughrea Town Council

Cllr. Bane referred to a historical document relating to Loughrea Town Commissioners/Council, which she stated is very informative, Ms. Hughes to forward document to all Councillors. It was agreed that Town Councillors will meet on the 28th January, 2013 at 7.30pm in the Lough Rea Hotel to discuss event for the end of the Town Council.

Gate at Old Office

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that the gate has been repaired.

Long Point

Cllr. G. Burke complimented Mr. Mulryan and Galway County Council for repair works carried out at the Long point. Mr. Mulryan advised that the diving board has been replaced, a section of footpaths have been repaired and the dressing rooms have been re-painted.

In reply to Cllr.'s Maher and G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that he would arrange for collection of waste materials at the Long point and Garrybreeda.

Drain at the Mart Loughrea

Cllr. Morgan asked Mr. Mulryan to investigate the flow of water in the drain between the Walks and the Mart.

The Grove

Cllr. Nix advised that works at The Grove are almost complete, and the area was inspected by Galway Rural Development last week, she stated the logs placed there to enhance the wildlife have been removed. She asked if a CCTV sign could be placed there.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: Mayor James Regan Date: 10/2/16

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 9th December, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Bail: Cllr. J. Regan - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. J. Curley

Oifigigh: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. G. Bane

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11th November, 2013.

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. Curley the minutes of the November monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

M18 Motorway Gort to Tuam

Cllr. Hynes asked what the current status is with the M18 Gort to Tuam Motorway. It was agreed to contact the Roads Department for details.

The Walks Loughrea

Cllr. G. Burke thanked Mr. Mulryan for arranging to have the Walks swept and made safer for pedestrians.

Loughrea Post Office

Cllr. Morgan stated that while the post office counter space has been extended, there doesn't appear to be sufficient staff to cover. Cllr. G. Burke asked that the Post Master be written to asking if more staff will be employed.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Nenagh Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted – "That this Council recognises that the trafficking, exploitation and abuse of women and girls is taking place in County Tipperary and throughout the country as a direct result of prostitution. The Council believes human rights abuses can be ended by targeting the demand for prostitution by introducing laws that make it an offence to pay for sex and is calling for such laws. This Council notes the success of similar laws in other European countries" **Noted by Councillors.**

Letter from Letterkenny Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted – “That this Council totally condemns the present government policy of deliberately withdrawing discretionary medical cards from some of the most sick in our society” **Noted by Councillors. Proposed to support by Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Hynes.**

Letter from Naas Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted - “That Naas Town Council calls on the Minister of the Environment, Community and Local Government to apply a waiver for all councils from the payment of Local Property Tax for all houses that are within the ownership of Local Authorities, since the Minister’s Department is effectively the owner of these houses” **Noted by Councillors.**

Letter from Clonakilty Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted – “That this Town Council expresses its concern regarding the proposed Legal Framework by the Oireachtas, on the proposal by Government, which is proposes to adopt in relation to the abolition of Town Councils which runs entirely contrary to key principles of the European Charter for Local Self Government (hereafter called “ the Charter”) ratified by Ireland on the 14th May, 2002 and which expressly included Town Councils within its confines and scope whilst asserting the integral role of Local Government in the Democratic process.....” **Noted by Councillors.**

Invitation to Golden Mile of Galway 2013 – 17th December, 2013 – Claregalway Hotel. Noted by Councillors.

3. Any Other Business

Cllr. Hynes referred to the fact that this will be the last Christmas where Loughrea Town Council will be in place and we should appreciate all that the Town Council has achieved over the years.

Unfinished Housing Estates

Cllr. G. Burke referred to listing of unfinished housing estates and asked if the “Cottage Hill” housing estate was included on this list. He stated that this estate as you enter Loughrea Town is very unattractive.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed:

Mayor James Regan

Date:

13/1/14

Minutes of proceedings of Budget meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 9th December, 2013, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Baill: Cllr. J. Regan - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. J. Curley

Officers: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. G. Bane

1. Budget for year 2014

Mr. Cullen stated that the draft budget as circulated was different to previous budgets and it was also the last budget for Loughrea Town Council, he stated that in that context it is appropriate to use some of the accumulated funds of Loughrea Town Council which couldn't be used previously for reoccurring expenditure.

Mr. Cullen outlined the increases to the budget, **No. 4 – Tidy Towns - €7,000.00**, Mr. Cullen stated that this allocation was not an additional grant payment; it is with the intention of implementing a programme in consultation with the Town Engineer to assist with Tidy Towns competition.

No. 15 – Chamber of Commerce – €6,500.00, Mr. Cullen advised that the additional allocation was intended for long term investment such as Christmas lighting.

Mr. Cullen stated that in the case of the additional Tidy Towns and Chamber of Commerce allocations that if the projects are not backable it cannot go ahead.

No. 20 – Footpath Improvements, Town Improvement Works - €60,000.00, Mr. Cullen stated that despite huge efforts made locally, that some of the footpaths in Loughrea are in disrepair.

No. 23 – Miscellaneous - €8,000.00, Mr. Cullen stated that it is not known what may arise during the year, and these monies can be used to accommodate if necessary and Loughrea Town Council will be marking the final engagement of Loughrea Town Council.

Mr. Cullen stated that the €150,000 committed to the Town Hall project previously was allowed for when preparing the Budget for 2014.

Mr. Cullen stated the commercial rate for Loughrea Town will remain the same for 2014 with no increase for the last number of years.

Mr. Cullen recommended to the meeting the adoption of Estimate for 2014, stating that it was the most prudent use of Town Council funds.

Cllr. Morgan asked if there will be any monies remaining at the end of Loughrea Town Council; Mr. Cullen stated that he cannot say at this stage. Cllr. Morgan suggested that any remaining monies also go towards the Town Hall Project.

Mayor Regan asked what will happen the allocation towards the Town Hall if the project does not go ahead prior to May 2014 and asked when it will be known if the project will go ahead. Mr. Cullen replied that the Minister will decide, Mr. Cullen stated that once the Tenders are received for the Town Hall it will be decided if funding is available to proceed with the Town Hall project, he said that the money could be paid to Galway County Council on the condition that it will be used for the Town Hall project.

Cllr. Nix asked if the usual allocation to the St. Patrick's Day Parade can be included in the budget, in reply Mr. Cullen said that allocation can be accommodated in the budget as presented.

Cllr. Nix thanked Mr. Cullen for additional allocation towards Loughrea Tidy Towns and stated that the Biodiversity plan for Loughrea is being launched on Tuesday 10th December, 2013, and there are various plans included which could be put in place with funding allocated towards the Tidy Towns. Cllr. Maher also thanked Mr. Cullen for the additional allocation towards the Tidy Towns.

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that areas identified in need of footpath repairs are at The Hill, Station Road, Barrack Street, Cross Street, Old Galway Road. Mr. Mulryan advised that he will estimate cost for each location, he informed Cllr. G. Burke that he can bring areas to his attention and he will investigate. Cllr. Hynes stated that there are two areas in Fahy Gardens estate that need to be urgently repaired. Mr. Mulryan advised that he will prepare a cost estimate for recommended footpath repairs in the town.

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. Nix, it was agreed the Budget for 2014 as circulated be adopted and that the Demand of €44,912.96 be served on Galway County Council and that the multiplier be set at 3.04.

This concluded the business of the Annual Budget Meeting

Signed: _____

Mayor James Regan

Date: _____

18/1/14

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 11th November, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Larhair:

Baill: Cllr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. J. Curley

Oifigigh: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. S. Burke

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 14th October, 2013.

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Burke seconded by Cllr. Maher the minutes of the October monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Loughrea Town Hall

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that the Part 8 planning application for the Town Hall was approved at the October meeting of Galway County Council, he said it is unlikely that the project will go to tender before Christmas.

Free Parking for Christmas period 2014

Cllr. Bane requested that the Free parking in the Car parks in Loughrea for the Christmas period be extended to include Saturday 30th November, 2013 to coincide with the turning on of the Christmas lights on this day. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would forward the recommendation to the Roads & Transportation Unit of Galway County Council.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) – Preliminary Notice of Spring Seminar on 31st January, & 1st February, 2014. Noted by Councillors.

Notice of Councillors Conferences – Budget 2014 for canvassing –Friday 22nd November, 2013

SIPO Councillors' Obligations – Friday 29th November to Sunday 1st December, 2013. Noted by Councillors.

Letter from Carrickmacross Town Council – Copy of letter issued to Minister Hogan regarding the Abolition of Town Councils. Noted by Councillors.

Letter from Balbriggan Town Council – Notice of Motion adopted: “Balbriggan Town Council call on the Minister for the Environment to publicly acknowledge and recognise the hard work of Town Councillors over a century and a half and to credit their hard work in their local areas to bring the foundations laid in securing support for County Councillors and T.D’s and also to recognise that even though being elected by proportional representation as they are for a long number of years Town Commissioners/Councillors received no payment.” **Noted by Councillors. Proposed to support by Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix.**

Letter from Kinsale Town Council – Notice of Motions adopted:

“That this Council recommend all schools work on reducing school uniform costs” **Noted by Councillors. Proposed to Support by Cllr. Nix, Seconded Cllr. G. Burke.**

“That Kinsale Town Council calls on the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government and the Oireachtas to postpone consideration of the legislation initiated in draft form on October 17th, 2013, and to refer the issue of local Government form to the Constitutional Convention or to an independent or representative new body so that there can be meaningful Local Government Reform devolving powers to the lowest levels of democracy in our community, the same to comply with the spirit and intent of the European Charter for Local Self Government ratified by Ireland on May 14th, 2002.” **Noted by Councillors**

3. Any Other Business

Roads Infrastructure – M18

Cllr. Hynes stated that the proposed M18 Motorway from Gort to Tuam is due to commence in 2014, he stated that the motorway will be of great benefit to Loughrea Town, as traffic from Shannon will be able to exit the motorway and carry on to Loughrea.

The Walks

Cllr. G. Burke stated that there are a lot of fallen leaves in the Walks which are slippery. Cllr. Maher stated that the TUS workers could clean up the leaves. Mr. Mulryan advised that he will arrange for the suction sweeper to clean up.

Extension to Loughrea Post office

Cllr. Maher proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to An Post following works done to alleviate queue’s in the post office. Seconded by Cllr. Morgan.

Water Services Repairs

Cllr. Bane asked what type of work was taking place on the Lake Road. Mr. Mulryan advised that works being carried out on the Old Galway Road, at Garrybreeda and on the Lake Road are part of site investigation works to facilitate the proposed upgrade of Water Mains infrastructure in the Town. He stated that separate works are taking place on the Lake Road, past Fitzzy’s corner where pressure filters are being installed to upgrade the Sewerage Infrastructure. Mr. Cullen stated it is expected that the works will be minor.

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Cullen advised that funding for the extension to the Loughrea Regional Water Supply Scheme will be determined by Irish Water.

Property Tax

Cllr. Nix stated that it now appears that the property tax collected locally will not remain in that specific area, which is disappointing, and as a Local Authority we should demand that it stays in the area. Mr. Cullen stated that the moneys are distributed through the equalization fund.

Dangerous footpath on Barrack Street

Cllr. Morgan stated that the footpath outside Marmion's house, beside the Garda Barracks on Barrack Street is in a dangerous condition. Mr. Mulryan advised that he will investigate and rectify.

Entrance to Bohercom

In reply to Cllr. Morgan, Mr. Mulryan advised that he cannot extend the double yellow lines at the entrance to Bohercom on Bride Street as it forms part of the overall Traffic Management Plan for Loughrea, he said he will investigate.

Loughrea Remembrance Weekend

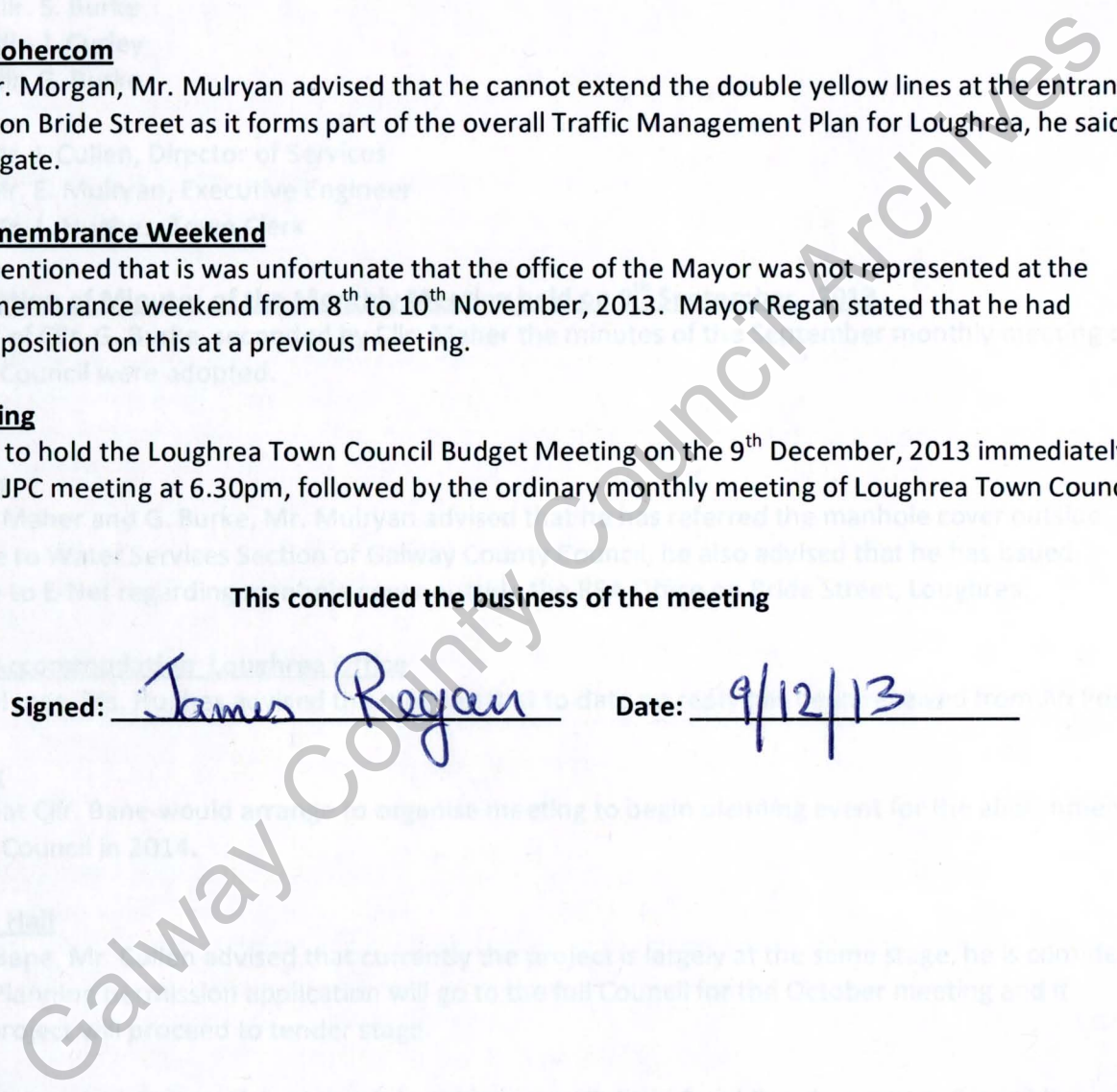
Cllr. Maher mentioned that it was unfortunate that the office of the Mayor was not represented at the Loughrea Remembrance weekend from 8th to 10th November, 2013. Mayor Regan stated that he had explained his position on this at a previous meeting.

Budget Meeting

It was agreed to hold the Loughrea Town Council Budget Meeting on the 9th December, 2013 immediately following the JPC meeting at 6.30pm, followed by the ordinary monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: James Regan Date: 9/12/13



Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 14th October, 2013, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Members:
Cllr. J. Regan - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. G. Bane
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. G. Burke

Guests:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 9th September, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. G. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Maher the minutes of the September monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Manhole covers

In reply to Cllr's Maher and G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that he has referred the manhole cover outside Boney's house to Water Services Section of Galway County Council, he also advised that he has issued correspondence to E-Net regarding manhole cover outside the RSA Office on Bride Street, Loughrea.

Post Office Accommodation Loughrea Office

In reply to Cllr. Hynes, Ms. Hughes advised the meeting that to date no reply has been received from An Post.

Special Meeting

It was agreed that Cllr. Bane would arrange to organise meeting to begin planning event for the abolishment of Loughrea Town Council in 2014.

Loughrea Town Hall

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that currently the project is largely at the same stage, he is confident that the Part 8 Planning permission application will go to the full Council for the October meeting and if approved, the project will proceed to tender stage.

In reply to Cllr. Hynes, Mr. Cullen advised that it is unlikely that Galway Rural Development will provide any funding, as there are a significant number of projects ahead of the Town Hall project, and funding requests far exceed available funding. Mr. Cullen advised that the Heritage Company as well as Loughrea Town Council have committed funding to the project.

In reply to Councillors, Mr. Cullen reiterated that if any interested party do not have substantial money available to invest initially and to maintain the building going forward they cannot be accommodated.

DM Damaged footpaths at Main Street

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that the cost estimate for repair of damaged sections of footpaths is €50,000, he stated that Galway County Council does not have available funding for repairs. Cllr. Cullen stated that as part of budgetary preparation for 2014 Loughrea Town Council will make a provision for some repairs.

In reply to Cllr. Nix, Ms. Hughes advised that letter was sent to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport requesting that footpath grants be reinstated. Cllr.'s requested that a further letter be sent.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from the Trim Town Council, Notice of Motions adopted

1. *"In an effort to improve the lives and well being of our deaf and hard of hearing citizens, that Trim Town Council calls on the Government to give official recognition status to ISL, Irish Sign Language"* **Noted by Councillors**

Letter from the Clones Town Council, Notice of Motion adopted

That this Council calls on the Minister for Health James Reilly, the Government, and the HSE to ensure that the 35 million euro funding that had been ring fenced for budget 2013, is again ring fenced for budget 2014.

This Council also calls for the full amount of that 35 million euro to be spent within the mental health service, and not to be spent to make up other departments overspent bills.

Self-harm is on the rise at an alarming rate and there is a responsibility on this Government to ensure the safety and well being of all its citizens. It is also proposed that this notice of motion be circulated to all town Councils and to the Minister for Health James Reilly"

Noted by Councillors, proposed to support Cllr. G. Burke, seconded Cllr. Curley.

Notice on Galway's Military History & Private John Oliver's Remembrance Weekend re. Remembrance Weekend taking place on 8th to 10th November, 2013 in Loughrea. **Noted by Councillors.**

3. Notice of Motions (Cllr. Gabriel Burke)

I will propose:

- (a) "That bicycle racks be provided at Barrack Street and Main Street Car Parks". **Seconded by Cllr. Nix.** Mr. Mulryan thanked Cllr. Maher for allocating Notice of Motion money towards putting bicycle racks in place; he advised that four bicycle racks have been provided, at the Long Point, Barrack Street, Main Street, and Gort Road car park at the lake.
- (b) "To repair road surface at Cosmona and Bride Street Loughrea". **Seconded by Cllr. Morgan** Mr. Mulryan advised that Site investigation works are to take place to facilitate future upgrade of services on Bride Street, he advised that Bride Street has been included in the Restoration Improvement Grant Programme 2014-2016. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would arrange to have pothole repairs completed on old Cosmona Road.

Notice of Motions (Cllr. Michael Maher)

I will propose:

- (a) "That Loughrea Town Council allow Loughrea Memorial Group erect a memorial plaque to Private John Oliver in the memorial garden outside Loughrea Office" **Seconded by Cllr. Morgan.** Cllr. Maher asked that all Councillors support this event. Cllr. Maher proposed that Loughrea Town Council allocate €500 towards the event, seconded by Cllr. Norman. Cllr's stated that it was decided at previous meeting that no further funding would be allocated by Loughrea Town Council and as such groups have previously been refused funding. Mayor stated that the first plaque put in place was in remembrance of all those who lost their lives in all wars and this was appropriate but the council needed to be cautious about creating a proliferation of plaques. Mr. Cullen said that as the building was the property of the county council it would be a matter for the County Secretary to consider. It was agreed that the matter be left with the County Secretary.

4. Any Other Business

Footway around seat in Corry's Field

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised it is anticipated that the works will be completed in advance of next town council meeting.

Paid Parking Loughrea Town

In reply to Cllr. Morgan, Mr. Mulryan advised that the paid parking system operating in Loughrea is similar to systems operating countrywide, he advised that with on street parking a barrier system similar to the system in operation at UCHG would not be feasible.

Free Parking arrangement for Christmas

Mr. Hughes to liaise with Roads Department in County Hall and advise Cllr. Bane of proposed free parking for Loughrea Town prior to Christmas.

Indoor Gym, Fairgreen, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Mulryan advised that a Road Opening Licence has issued to the contractor who has been awarded the contract, he will investigate timeframe for completion of project prior to next Town Council meeting.

Letter of Congratulations

Mr. Bane proposed that a letter be sent to Mr. Mattie Kenny congratulating him on his involvement with the Lingus International hurling festival event held in Galway and in particular the events held in Loughrea, seconded by Cllr. G. Burke.

Mayor Regan proposed that a letter be sent to Loughrea Hurling Club wishing them well in the County Senior Hurling Final, seconded by Cllr. Hynes.

Mr. Hynes proposed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Kilnadeema-Leitrim Hurling Club congratulating them on their intermediate County hurling final victory, seconded by Mayor Regan.

Mr. G. Burke proposed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Galway County Intermediate and Senior Hurling Teams congratulating them on their All-Ireland victories, Seconded by Mayor Regan.

Mayor

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

James Regan T.C.

Date: _____

11/11/13

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 9th September, 2013, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Cllr. J. Regan - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. G. Bane
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. G. Burke

High:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held 8th July, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. Curley the minutes of the July monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Whole covers

In reply to Cllr's Maher and G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that he will investigate the matter of loose whole covers outside Mooney's house on Barrack Street and outside the RSA Office on Bride Street.

Loughrea Tennis Club

G. Bane advised the meeting that the Loughrea Tennis Club have now completed all works at the Tennis Club. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he has issued a report to Ms. Hughes recommending the charge of funding in the sum of €10,000 as agreed by Councillors at previous meeting. It was unanimously agreed to discharge the payment of €10,000 to Loughrea Tennis Club.

Work at Car park at Long Point

Mayor Regan complimented the work carried out to the wall at the long point car park. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that the work was carried out by the TUS workers and paid complimented to them for their work.

Post Office Accommodation Loughrea Office

Mayor Regan welcomed additional opening hours at the Post Office and also welcomed additional staff. Cllr's Nix and Maher stated that a Post office also need additional space in particular counter space. Cllr. Hynes advised that he had made representations two years ago on the matter, he proposed that Loughrea Town Council write to the Post to ascertain what the current position is with the proposed extension, seconded by Cllr. Maher.

Pedestrian Crossing on Main Street

Mr. Maher complimented Ms. Baker, Gardener for cutting back trees which were blocking sight lines at the pedestrian crossing on Main Street.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from the Monaghan Town Council, Notice of Motions adopted

1. "Monaghan Town Council call on the Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn, TD to reverse his decision relating to the reduction in support hours to children with Special needs". **Noted by Councillors**

2. "That the Minister would look at EU Directive Regulation 56, Sub-Section 7 of the European Communities Regulations 2007 to insert a clause that any company that has gone into receivership of liquidation cannot tender for public contracts for a period of 5 years under a new company name when that new company is relying on technical or professional abilities of the old company" **Noted by Councillors**

Letter from the Dundalk Town Council, Notice of Motion adopted

That this Council calls on the Government to give official recognition status to Irish sign language which would improve the lives and well being of our deaf and hard of hearing citizens" **Noted by Councillors, Proposed to support by Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix**

Letter from Department of Health - response to letter sent from Loughrea Town Council regarding Contamination of Water. Noted by Councillors

Letter from Rattoo Heritage Society – re. Annual Kerry Environmental Cultural & Heritage Conference & Training Seminar for elected members from 18th to 21st September, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Letter from Loughrea Chamber of Commerce -Aer lingus International Hurling Festival 18th to 21st September, 2013 - Invitation to Welcoming Ceremony on Wednesday 18th September, 2013 in Loughrea Hotel and Spa, Noted by Councillors. Cllr. Bane advised the meeting of the events planned for the GAA Gathering 2013, including the Welcoming Ceremony taking place on Thursday 19th September, 2013 at 7pm at Main Street, Loughrea. Mayor Regan encouraged all business to support.

Letter from Irish Planning Institute – Details of Autumn Planning Conference taking place 11th October, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Letter from Loughrea Musical Society, requesting funding contribution. Noted by Councillors

3. Notice of Motions (Cllr. Norman Morgan)

I will propose:

- (a) *That the system used at Galway University Hospital Car Parks be adopted for Loughrea Pay & Display Car Parks, which allows "No Charge for under 'x' minutes/hours. Seconded Cllr. G. Burke. Mr. Cullen advised that it is unlikely that the pay & display system will be changed, he stated that the proposal can be forwarded to Galway County Council headquarters.*

- (b) **That the law respecting "No Cycling on Footpaths" be enforced**, Seconded Cllr. Maher
- (c) **That all trees which are growing out of the side of the embankments at "The Walks" be removed, as they were not planted, but grew wild, and are damaging said embankments"**, Seconded Cllr. Maher, Cllr. Maher advised that there are TUS workers working in the Walks currently and they will remove trees in as far as possible, Mr. Mulryan advised that he will have to investigate any Health & Safety and insurance implications.

Notice of Motions (Cllr. Jimmy Curley)

I will propose:

- (a) **That we call on Minister James Reilly to review the decision taken by the HSE to close 22 acute beds at St. Brigid's Hospital in Ballinasloe.** Seconded Cllr. Bane. Cllr. Curley advised the meeting that there is a protest march taking place on 15th September, 2013 and asked all Councillors to support. Cllr's gave praise for the much needed facilities available in Ballinasloe and gave their full support. Mayor Regan encouraged all Councillors to attend protest march on 15th September, 2013.

Notice of Motions (Cllr. Gabriel Burke)

I will propose:

- (a) **That the damaged footpaths at Main Street be repaired.** Seconded Cllr. Bane. Cllr. Bane asked if the bollards that have been damaged/removed could be put back in place. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that there has been no funding for footpaths since 2010, he agreed to examine the area in question with Cllr. G. Burke. Cllr. Nix proposed that Loughrea Town Council write to the relevant Department to re-instate footpath grants and also to get support from other Town Councils, seconded by Cllr. Hynes. Mayor Regan asked if County Councillors could allocation money from Notice of Motion money, Cllr. Hynes replied that he's allocation for 2013 is exhausted.
- (b) **That litter bins be provided at Moore Street.** Seconded by Cllr. Bane. Cllr. Bane asked if Cross Street could also be included, as there are in the region of 800 children on the street daily and there are no bins on the Street. Cllr. Maher advised the meeting that it is an initiative of Loughrea Tidy Towns also. Mr. Mulryan advised that a survey of Street bins has been carried out, and as part of which the shortage of bins on Cross Street and Moore Street has been noted, he advised that subject to sufficient funding being available additional bins would be provided on Cross Street and Moore Street. However, he noted there has been 20% to 25% reduction in Town Maintenance budgets in the last 2 years, which severely limits this type of work.
- (c) **That Bus Shelters be provided at the Bus Stops.** Seconded Mayor Regan. Mr. Mulryan advised that Councillors need to make contact with property owners to advise if they would be willing to accept shelter outside premises, following which if required contact could be made with Bus Eireann and Galway County Council Head Quarters requiring funding if any.

Any Other Business

Towns Competition 2013

Nix advised the meeting that the results of the Tidy Towns competition were received today, Cllr. Nix advised that Loughrea has received 10 additional marks, bringing their total to 250, she also complemented Maher, Chairperson of Loughrea Tidy Towns Committee. Cllr. Maher then complemented the Tidy Towns committee and volunteers for all their work, and thanked Mr. Mulryan for all his assistance to the Towns. Cllr. Bane congratulated the Tidy Towns Committee on their achievement.

Flower Bed Main Street Car Park

Maier asked if the flower bed in Main Street car park could be planted prior to the GAA Gathering 2013 event.

Special Meeting

It was agreed to hold a special meeting of councillors to discuss and plan event for the end of Loughrea Town Council in 2014.

Loughrea Town Hall

Cullen advised the meeting that the Loughrea Town Hall project has gone to Part 8 Planning, and will hopefully go to the full council for October meeting. Mr. Cullen advised that he intends to go to Tender with the project, he advised that it is unlikely that funding will be received from Galway Rural Development. Mr. Cullen stated that whether the project proceeds past tender stage will depend on planning. Cllr. Hynes thanked Mr. Cullen and his staff for their work on the project, and stated that he hopes that the downstairs part of the building can be used for multi cultural activities; in reply Mr. Cullen stated that any parties showing interest in the project cannot be accommodated if they do not have substantial Capital to invest.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: Mayor James Regan Date: 14/oct/2013

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 8th July, 2013, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Members: Cllr. J. Regan - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. G. Bane
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. J. Curley

Guests: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. G. Burke

Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 5th June, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Bane, seconded by Cllr. Curley the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held 5th June, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. Nix the minutes of the June monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Anti-Dog fouling Campaign

Cllr. Bane thanked Ms. Hughes for her work on the Anti Dog fouling campaign.

Grass cutting at Corrys field

In reply to Cllr. Curley, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he has liaised with Mr. Michael Flynn, IFA and made a proposal to him, Mr. Flynn informed Mr. Mulryan that at this time there was no requirement for additional fodder due to upturn in the weather.

Following discussion it was decided that Mr. Mulryan would get a cost estimate for cutting grass around the edges of Corrys field.

Manhole covers Athenry Road

Cllr. Maher thanked Mr. Mulryan for attending to the manhole covers on the Athenry Road.

Galway County Council Car Park Bye-Laws 2013 – Eddie O’Dea’s Car park, Loughrea.

Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting in relation to correspondence received from Galway County Council regarding the revision of the Car Park Bye-Laws for Eddie O’Dea’s Car Park, Loughrea, he advised that the main change to the bye-laws is to allow for the inclusion of a monthly and yearly permit, he advised the meeting of the cost of permits; €30.00 per calendar month, €360.00 per annum. He stated that any

representations or submissions may be made in writing to the Director of Services, Road, Transportation Marine and General Services Section, Galway County Council, on or before Monday 2nd September, 2013.

Revision of Road Traffic (Special Speed Limit) Loughrea Town – County Galway Bye-Laws.

Mulryan advised the meeting of the changes to the Speed limits for Loughrea Town as circulated to members, outlined below. He stated that any representations may be made in writing to the Director of Services, Road, Transportation Marine and General Services Section, Galway County Council, on or before Friday 6th August, 2013.

| <u>Change to Road Traffic (Special Speed Limit) Loughrea Town</u> | <u>Reason for Change</u> |
|---|--|
| 1, Woodford Road, extend the 50km/hr zone out 62,409E, 215,429N | Existing signs are being hit by HGV's |
| 1, Woodford Road, extend the 60km/hr zone out 62,652E, 215,135N | Existing signs are being hit by HGV's |
| 50km/hr limit on L8246 (Driving Range Road) | Correct Anomaly in existing speed limits |
| 13 Tynagh Road, Move 50km/hr limit out past cemetery at 163,025E, 215,978N | Move out past entrance to cemetery |
| Caherlavine Roundabout, Athenry Road, N66 ease existing 50km/hr to 60km/hr from Lough Hotel to By-Pass at Caherlavine Roundabout. Proposed is 60km/hr on each leg to the roundabout | 60km/hr is the natural speed of traffic on this section of road. |

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government LG 03/13
 Representational Payments for Councillors. **Noted by Councillors**

MA – Preliminary Notice Autumn Seminar – 11th & 12th October, 2013. Noted by Councillors.

Any Other Business

Loughrea Tennis Club

Cllr. Bane advised the meeting that the Tennis Club has completed the new fencing, walls and flood lighting, works are currently on hold as the Club are running camps during the summer, and the club hope to complete works by September/October, 2013. Cllr. Bane asked if the allocated money could be paid to the Tennis Club at this time. Mr. Cullen strongly recommended that no payment be made until evidence of enditure and receipts are shown, and works are fully completed to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer.

Pedestrian Crossing on Main Street

reply to Cllr. Morgan, Mr. Mulryan advised he would investigate the matter of trees blocking sight lines at pedestrian lights on Main Street.

Disabled Parking Spaces – Main Street Car Park

Bane asked if the disabled parking spaces in Main Street Car Park could be re-marked. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would examine the relining of these spaces.

Pedestrian Crossing at Lakeshore Car park, Gort Road

Maier asked if in the interest of safety a railing could be installed at the exit of the Lakeshore car park, the pedestrian crossing on the Gort Road. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that consultants were engaged and the crossing was designed to a high standard and is compliant with legislation. Following discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Mulryan would prepare cost estimate for the installation of railing. Mr. Bane advised that the costing can be examined when preparing estimates for 2014.

Wall at Car park at Long Point

Mr. Regan advised the meeting that the side wall in the small car park at the long point is in dangerous condition.

Loughrea Post Office

Mr. Regan proposed that Loughrea Town Council write to An Post asking them to address the current overcrowding problems at Loughrea post office, as funding has been allocated for improvement works at Loughrea Post office. Seconded by Cllr. Morgan.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: Mr. James Regan T.E. Date: 9/Sept 2013

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 5th June, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Cllr. J. Regan - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. G. Bane
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. J. Curley

High:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held 13th May, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Bane, seconded by Cllr. Morgan the minutes of the May monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Dogs fouling in Loughrea Town

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that funding has been secured from the Environment Department for seven additional Anti Dog Fouling Stencils for Loughrea Town, it is the intention to install three at the entrances to Corry's field, two at the walks and two at further locations. In reply to Cllr Bane, Ms. Hughes, advised the meeting that the Community Wardens have been actively handing out the Anti Dog fouling flyers which were prepared by the Environment Department. And she advised the meeting that she is currently liaising with the Environment Department as regards having a one town wide Anti Dog fouling campaign in Loughrea Town. Cllr. Nix stated that she felt the situation had improved around the town. Mayor Regan stated that there are a large number of dogs entering the lake at the long point, which is endangering the Blue Flag status of the area. In reply Mr. Cullen advised the issues around dog ownership is a national problem and not just a problem in Loughrea, he stated that the campaign will raise awareness but will not solve the problem.

Mr. Maher raised the issue of the frequency of Life Guards at the long point for the summer months, Ms. Hughes is to find out and revert to Councillors.

Door Gym, Fairgreen, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Curley, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that currently the Tenders have been examined and Ms. Dolan, Corporate Services is liaising with the most economically advantageous Tender.

Manhole Covers

Mr. Maher advised that there are two Manhole covers on the Athenry Road which are extremely noisy. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would have the matter investigated.

Play Area, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that the Architects are to prepare detailed drawings to get to planning application stage. Mr. Cullen advised that Galway Rural Development will be meeting to evaluate

Minute of proceedings of Annual Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on
ects, which have been on hold for the past while. Cllr. G. Burke enquired what the expected time
ne for the project is, Mr. Cullen advised that before the end of the Town Council, it will be known if the
ect will be going ahead.

and Closure Main Street Loughrea

Reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised that he has liaised with the company to whom the Road
Opening License was issued and correspondence has also issued to the company.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

**Notification to Official Opening of St. Brendan's Memorial Garden, at St. Brendan's Home – Friday 14th
July, 2013. Noted by Councillors.**

Notice of Motion & Information on Fluoridation – Skibbereen Town Council

Notice of Motion at Skibbereen Town Council calls for the immediate cessation of the practice of fluoridation of the
public water supply. Only 2% of Europe continues this practice and this is made up of the Republic of
Ireland and a few cities in the UK. The benefits given for continuing the process carry no weight when
considered against the wide variety of major health concerns validated by countless volumes of research,
studies and data to the contrary. The risks involved to public health by the mass medication of the
population are proven and are too great to continue to ignore. We need immediate action!
Noted by Councillors.

Nix proposed that the issue needs to be given consideration, and support.

Cullen advised the meeting that there is a huge amount of information been circulated and it has been
considered twice at strategic policy committee level of Galway County Council, and has been raised at full
Council meeting also, the position on the issue of fluoridation is determined at National Level and local
authorities obliged to conform with policies. Mr. Cullen advised that it is a Public Health matter. It was
decided to write to the Department of Public Health and ask that consideration be given to reviewing the
current practice on fluoridation. Seconded by Cllr. Burke.

Any Other Business

Grass at Corrys field

Morgan proposed that the local representative of the I.F.A. be contacted and that the grass of Corry's
field be offered to them. Mr. Mulryan advised that the adequate levels of insurance must be in place and
the area is also quiet rough for machinery, Mr. Morgan asked that the gesture be made. Mr. Mulryan
advised that he would investigate but if there were any risks he would not go ahead.

Event for Town Council

Bane suggested that in the event of the Town Council being abolished that a Town Council event
could be held to mark the last year of the Town Council. Mr. Cullen stated that in the event of the Town
Council been abolished, that the final meeting could be used to mark the occasion.

Grass Cutting

Reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan stated that the Housing section has advised that they are currently
engaging a contractor to cut the grass.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed:

Mayor James Rogan

Date:

8th July 2013

**Minute of proceedings of Annual Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on
Wednesday 5th June, 2013 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.**

Chair:

Members:

Cllr. G. Bane Mayor
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix

Guests:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Mayor Bane welcomed everyone to the meeting and began by thanking her colleagues for unanimously electing her as mayor and for their support throughout the year. She thanked Deputy Mayor Cllr. Regan for his support and friendship throughout the year.

Mayor Bane thanked Dearbhla Geraghty from the Connacht Tribune and Ken Kelly from Galway Bay FM for their attendance and coverage of the meetings over the year, and she thanked Keith Finnegan from Galway Bay FM.

Mayor Bane also thanked Mr. Mulryan for all his work during the year and for the direct and efficient manner in which he carries out his work. She thanked Mr. Cullen for his direction and guidance throughout the year and for his steady influence. She thanked Ms. Hughes for her assistance also throughout the year.

Mayor Bane paid tribute to her mother and father who assisted her greatly throughout the year.

Mayor Bane stated that she had a lot of great memories from her year as mayor, some of the main highlights being, the Street Fest event held in the Walks, Loughrea, the progress made with the Town Council, the Acknowledging of Volunteers Event held in May, turning on the Christmas lights, the Christmas party and refreshments in aid of Loughrea Lions Club.

Mr. Cullen in turn paid complement to Mayor Bane on her successful year, thanking her for the just and fair manner in which she conducted the meetings, and the success of the events which she held during the year, and wishing her well in her career in politics.

Mr. Cullen thanked Mayor Bane for her compliments and also paid complement to her on the successful year she had.

1. Election of Mayor for the year 2013/2014

Cllr. Regan was proposed by Cllr. Hynes, seconded by Cllr. Curley.

As there was no other nomination the Mayor declared Cllr. Regan elected. Mayor Regan then took the Chair.

Mayor Regan thanked his proposer and seconder, and went on to state that he is looking forward to the year ahead as mayor.

The Town Councillors and Mr. Cullen congratulated Mayor Regan and wished him well for the year ahead.

2. Election of Deputy Mayor for the year 2013/2014

Mayor Regan asked for proposals for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cllr. Hynes was proposed by Cllr. Bane, seconded by Cllr. Curley.

Cllr. S. Burke was proposed by Cllr. G. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Morgan

A vote was taken and counted as follows:

In favour of Cllr. Hynes were Cllr's, Maher, Bane, Curley, Hynes, Regan.

In favour of Cllr. S. Burke were - Cllr's, Morgan, S. Burke, G. Burke, Nix.

Mayor Regan, declared Cllr. Hynes elected as Deputy Mayor.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

Geraldine Bane

Date: _____

30/6/13

Galway County Council Archives

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 13th May, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Cllr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. J. Curley

Guests:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies: Martina Moloney, County Manager

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 8th April, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. Maher the minutes of the April monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Business Arising

Anti-dog fouling in Loughrea Town

Mr. Maher asked for update, a copy of notice prepared by Environment Department was circulated at the meeting. Mr. Mulryan advised that the Community Wardens are touring the Long Point and Corry's field.

Mr. Morgan stated that the anti-dog fouling stencils are very effective and asked if more anti-dog fouling stencils could be put in place around Loughrea Town. Mr. Mulryan stated that if funds were available he would look at having additional stencils put in place. Mr. Cullen stated that he will liaise with the Environment Department to ascertain what their plans are for the campaign and if they have a date scheduled.

Illegal Dumping

Mr. Regan stated that an illegal dumping notice should be issued to all estates in Loughrea. Mr. Cullen advised that the notice is a statutory notice and such notices are only issued to specific problem areas.

Mr. Mulryan advised that the Estates that were issued with notices had serious problems with illegal dumping and a substantial amount of money was spent cleaning them up. Cllr. Regan advised that there is a lot of dumping in the Caheronaun area. Mr. Mulryan advised that the spring clean campaign is being used to clean up areas. Cllr. Maher complimented Galway County Council for their assistance to Loughrea Tidy Towns.

Works on Kelly Street

In reply to Cllr. Regan, Mr. Mulryan advised that there was a problem with sewers, camera work was carried out to inspect the sewers, and to ensure the integrity of the sewers and for safety reasons Galway County Council carried out repairs to the sewers.

Water Meters on Main Street

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that Galway County Council is to commence repair work this week. Cllr. Regan stated that bricks on the footpaths are also a trip hazard. Cllr. G. Burke stated that water lodges on some of the paths. Mr. Mulryan stated that funding is required in order to carry out repairs to footpaths in Loughrea Town.

June Meeting

Mr. Hughes confirmed that the schedule for the June meeting to be held on the 5th June, 2013, is as follows; the Policing Committee meeting at 6.30 pm, followed by Annual General Meeting and Monthly meeting.

Outdoor Gym, Fairgreen, Loughrea

Mayor Bane read correspondence received from Corporate Services Section of Galway County Council, circulated at the meeting. Mr. Mulryan confirmed that the location for the gym equipment is on the green adjoining the playground. Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that co-funding of €3,000 is required of which Loughrea Town Council will be required to provide €1,500 and this was agreed.

Annual Financial Statement 2012

Mr. Cullen stated that the Annual Statement is a statutory requirement which needs to be approved by the Town Council. He went through Income and Expenditure figures and he stated that the bank balance was healthy currently. Mr. Cullen recommended the adoption of the Annual Financial Statement. On the proposal of Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr. Morgan the Annual Financial Statement was adopted.

Town Hall, Lough Rea Lake Trail, Loughrea Tennis Club

Mr. Cullen started by stating that the Town Hall, Lough Rea Lake Trail and Loughrea Tennis Club projects which have been discussed at recent meetings of Loughrea Town Council needed to be dealt with. Mr. Cullen stated that he is recommending and advising Loughrea Town Council in the strongest possible way that the funds which the Town Council has accumulated should not be dispersed except in the most exceptional circumstances. He stated that we do not know what the future for Loughrea Town Council is going to be, therefore, we must be careful about how and on what Town Council monies are spent. Mr. Cullen stated that he is asking the Town Council to make a decision that Loughrea Town Council won't be accepting applications for funding from various sources, clubs etc once the above items are disposed of. Mr. Cullen stated that there is a huge amount of work of public utility which could be carried out around the town with Town Council funds. It was unanimously agreed by Councillors that once the three items mentioned by Mr. Cullen were disposed of, no further requests for funding would be looked at by Loughrea Town Council.

Mr. Cullen stated that he is recommending that in relation to the Lough Rea Lake Trail that the Town Council make available €3,500 and he stated that he is confident that Galway County Council will fund the remainder. Mr. Cullen's recommendation was agreed on the proposal by Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. S. Burke.

In relation to the Tennis Club, Mr. Cullen recommended to the Town Council that it set aside €5,000 and that in the event of the project being finished in accordance with its original outline that the Town Council should make €5,000 available, but only at the point at which the project is fully completed to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer. Mayor Bane stated that the Tennis club would not meet the shortfall required with €5,000 she stated that they may meet the shortfall with €10,000. Cllr. Maher proposed that Loughrea Town Council set aside €10,000, seconded by Cllr. S. Burke, supported by Cllr. Morgan.

Cullen reiterated his concern that the door is just opening and he has a genuine concern about the door which is being established. Cllr. Hynes recommended that the €10,000 be set aside. It was unanimously agreed to set aside €10,000 for the Tennis Club, in the event of the project being finished in accordance with its original outline and to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer.

Cullen presented a drawing for the Town Hall and advised that John Britton, Engineer and a team consisting of structural engineer, design architect, conservation architect, and quantity surveyor had prepared the draft plans. He said he wants to bring the Town Hall forward as quickly as possible and lodge a planning application for either part 8 planning approval or for planning permission. He stated that the intention is to convert the upper floor into business incubation units, where he hopes the facility will help to set up business activity. Mr. Cullen stated that the ground floor is going to be open plan, and that the Heritage Company have expressed an interest and have confirmed that they would be prepared to take 1000 square feet of floor space. He stated that where we are now is that we have an indicative design, which needs to be added to and hopefully should be ready for planning application by the end of the summer. He stated that the initial indicative cost is between €550,000 and €600,000 and an application for funding is with Galway Rural Development for €200,000 which hopefully will come through. Mr. Cullen stated that he was recommending to the Town Council that they make a provision for €150,000 from its accumulated funds, and that he will be asking Galway County Council to make a contribution also and if the Heritage Company come on board he will be asking them for a capital contribution also. Mr. Cullen stated that prior to progressing to construction stage the funding for the project must be in place, he stated that this is the last remaining iconic project in Loughrea.

All councillors individually thanked and complemented Mr. Cullen on his vision for the Town Hall and his attempt to bring the project to fruition, Mr. Cullen received the unanimous support of all councillors for his proposal for funding the Town Hall from Town Council funds.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Skibbereen Town Council – Notice of Motion adopted:

That Skibbereen Town Council calls for the immediate cessation of the practice of fluoridation of the public water supply. Only 2% of Europe continues this practice and that is made up of the Republic of Ireland and a few cities in the UK. The 'benefits' given for continuing the process carry no weight when considered against the wide variety of major health concerns validated by countless volumes of research, studies and evidence to the contrary. The risks involved to public health by this mass medication of the population are severe and are too great to continue to ignore. We need immediate action! Following discussion, *Cllr Nix proposed that Loughrea Town Council ask that the Department of Health to examine again the legislation at local and national level in relation to the fluoridation of Water.*
Seconded Mayor Bane, supported Cllr. G. Burke.

Letter from Middletown Town Council – Notice of Motions adopted:

This Council demands that the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland challenge and reject the proposal/strategy for the abolition of Town Councils in the "Putting People First – Action Programme for Effective Local Government". Proposed by Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix. Supported by all Councillors
This Council calls on the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to reconsider the proposal/strategy for the abolition of Town Councils in the "Putting People First – Action Programme for Effective Local Government".
Proposed by Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix.

Letter from Ballyshannon Town Council – Notice of Motion adopted:

lyshannon Town Council call on Minister Alan Shatter, T.D. to withdraw the harsh and unfair proposed cuts to An Garda Síochána and other frontline services'. Noted by Councillors

er from Killarney Town Council – Notice of Motion adopted:

the Principle of Subsidiarity, as detailed in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Unions and in a protocol of the Treaty of Amsterdam, is a central tenet of European Union policy, that this Council calls on the E.U. to critically examine the Irish Government's proposal to abolish Town Councils as such abolition is infranchising many at the most basic level of the democratic process". Noted by Councillors, Proposed G. Burke, Seconded Cllr. Nix.

er from Monaghan Town Council – Notice of Motions adopted:

That this Council calls on the relevant Departments and agencies to consider how best to regulate the quantity, quality and labeling of packaging materials used on smaller items for sale in Ireland with a view to reducing the amount of packaging used" Noted by Councillors

"That we write to the Minister for Justice, Alan Shatter calling for a maximum 10 year sentence and a maximum of 5 years for any person involved in a fatal motor accident who leaves the scene" Noted by Councillors

ork County Mayor's Conference Youghal on 24th & 25th May, 2013 - Brochure from Cork Council Council. Noted by Councillors.

er from Galway County Council Planning Department – Notice of intention to review and prepare a County Development plan including timeframe for submissions or observations. Noted by Councillors.

Notice of Motions (Cllr. Norman Morgan)

ill propose:

- a. "That Loughrea Town Council recommends to the people of Loughrea that they not subscribe to Street Collections by persons from out of town, unless they are sure that the money they subscribe will go to help those for whom they intended it to go." Seconded Cllr. G. Burke.
- b. "That the palm trees on the north side of "the Walks" from the Railway Road to the junction leading to the "North Mound" be cut down now, and replaced with suitable type of trees, when funds become available at a later stage." Seconded Cllr. Maher, discussion followed and Cllr. Maher stated that he did not want the trees removed. Mr. Mulryan advised he did not recommend the removal of the trees as they screen the mart. Cllr G.Burke put forward a counterproposal to the proposed motion which was seconded by Cllr. S. Burke.
- c. "That a further recommendation be made to Galway County Council to have a public street light put on the ESB pole at the junction of Mount Pleasant and St. Brendan's Boys National School." Seconded by Cllr. G. Burke. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would make recommendation to the County Council, he advised that there is no allocation for new street lights currently. Cllr. Burke raised the issue of the Light at the Junction of Main Street and Piggot Street which is out of order. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would investigate the matter.

Any Other Business

ors event "Celebration of Community"

Mayor Bane advised the meeting that she is hosting an event "Celebration of Community" to acknowledge the work of volunteers in Loughrea on Wednesday 29th May, 2013 at 7.00p.m in the Lough Rea Hotel. She advised she has a list of 50 groups who give up their time, she advised the meeting that the sponsors are the Bakery, Lough Rea Hotel and the Council are also very supportive. Mayor Bane advised the meeting that the County Manager will attend. Mayor Bane advised the meeting that if there is a Community Group which members would like included to mention it to her and she will include.

Retail Excellence Ireland Competition

Mayor Bane informed the meeting that Retail Excellence Ireland as a result of survey carried out in 2012 are running a competition where they are looking for a pilot town, or city. In relation to town or city revival. There are 100 towns and cities eligible to apply of which Loughrea is one. They are looking for towns to apply for pilot. The successful town will receive support from committee to establish a Town Team, which will be assisted to develop a Town Plan, they are looking for a diverse range of stakeholders to be part of the application, She advised the meeting that she has been working on application, and she asked that the Town Council be one of the proposed Town Team if successful, and asked that the Town Council endorse. Proposed Cllr. Curley, and proposed by Councillors.

Local Hero

Mayor Maher advised the meeting that a local man Mr. Paddy Daniels saved a lady and young child recently on the long point, and asked that he be recognized by Loughrea Town Council for his heroics. Cllr. Nix proposed that Mr. Daniels be recognized at the Mayor event on the 29th May, 2013.

Dog Fouling Symbols

Mayor Maher advised the meeting that the entrance to Corry's field from Coscorrig has no signs in relation to dog fouling. Mr. Mulryan stated that he will make a request for funding from the Environment Section. Cllr. Nix mentioned that there are no signs at the Walks. Mr. Mulryan advised he would include in his request.

Road Closure Main Street Loughrea

G. Burke mentioned that contractors working on Main Street recently blocked the road at the bridge and diverted Traffic, he advised that there were people on Main Street waiting for buses who were not aware of diversions. Cllr. Nix stated that there was also a diversion in place coming into Loughrea from Dublin. Mr. Mulryan advised that the Road opening licence issued did not include for diversion of traffic and he would investigate with contractor.

Dead Fish at Loughrea Lake

In reply to Mayor Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that Inland Fisheries Ireland are sending a sample of the dead fish for analysis.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

Geraldine Stone

Date: _____

5/16/13

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 8th April, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Cllr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke

Deputies:

Cllr. J. Curley

Guests:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11th March, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr. Maher the minutes of the March monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Dog fouling in Loughrea Town

Mr. Maher thanked Mr. Mulryan and Mr. Cullen for having the thermo-plastic anti dog fouling symbols put in place around Loughrea Town, he stated that Loughrea was very lucky to be the first town to have the thermo-plastic anti dog fouling symbols and went on to say that now enforcement is the most important. Mr. Cullen advised that he intends to get campaign underway whereby the Community Wardens will visit Loughrea town on occasions and remind people of the responsibility of dog ownership. Mr. Cullen also advised that the Community Wardens are having a door to door campaign checking for dog fouling. He advised that an information brochure is currently being prepared by the Environment Department.

Town Hall

Cllr. Regan asked for update on the Town Hall Project. Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that the next stage in progression of the Town Hall project is to prepare a planning application, which will be prepared by the Corporate Services section of Galway County Council. Mr. Cullen advised that the Town Council will be expected to make a contribution towards the cost of renovating the Town Hall. In reply to Cllr. Hynes, Mr. Cullen advised that the hope is to keep the usage of the Town Hall as flexible as possible, possibly a business incubation start up support unit in part of the space.

In reply to Mayor Bane, Mr. Cullen advised that the next stages are for the Architect to prepare plans, prepare and lodge Planning Application, and await decision on application currently on hold with Galway Planning Development.

G. Burke and Cllr. Nix complimented Mr. Cullen and his team on their efforts with the Town Hall, and that hopefully the project will come to fruition.

Lough Rea Lake Trail – Phase 3

Hynes advised the meeting of the position with the Lough Rea Lake Trail, he stated that phase one and two are now complete, he advised that the next step is to complete an aerial survey of the shore of the lake which will cost approximately €5,000.

Following discussion by Cllr's, Mr. Cullen asked the meeting to hold off on deciding until the May Town Council meeting, whereby he hopes to have progressed the Town Hall project. Mr. Cullen advised that as decided at the March meeting when deciding on funding for the Town Hall, the application for the Tennis Court, and the Lough Rea Lake Trail will also be decided on. Mr. Cullen stated he would work as quickly as possible and will come back to the Town Council as soon as possible.

Cutting

Hynes reiterated his full support for the people who wish to cut turf for their own use, on their own terms.

Water Meters on Main Street

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he had referred the matter to the Water Services Department of Galway County Council and did not have an update for the meeting.

Clean Up on Estates in Loughrea

Mayor Maher complimented the staff of Loughrea for the clean up which was carried out in St. Laurences and Fahy Garden housing estates recently.

Illegal Dumping on Castle Street

Regan complimented Mr. Mulryan on the clean up of illegally dumped rubbish on Castle Street in Loughrea Town.

Works on Kelly Street

Regan asked in relation to works on Kelly Street, repairs to Sewerage works in Loughrea Town and who was paying for the works. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would refer this matter to Water Services Section of Galway County Council for investigation and response.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Mayor Bane congratulated Cllr's Nix, Maher and Regan on the successful organising of the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Cllr. Maher complimented Mayor Bane on her role as MC on the day.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Passage West Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted

Considering the increasing number of vacant and derelict commercial properties in our towns and cities

Town Council requests the Government to review the legislation on the rating of commercial

premises". Noted by Councillors, Supported by Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded by Mayor Bane

This concluded the business of the meeting

[Handwritten signature] Date: 13/05/13

er from Bandon Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted
t Bandon Town Council calls on the Minister for the Environment and Local Government, Phil Hogan,
nmediately reinstate the Footpath Allocation to local authorities.' Noted by Councillors, Supported by
G. Burke, Seconded by Cllr. Maher

er from Muinebheag Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted
e Members of Muinebheag Town Council call on Education Minister Ruairi Quinn to restore responsibility
he administration of the Higher Education Grant Scheme to the Local Authorities." Noted by Councillors

ional Famine Commemoration Ceremony 12th May, 2013 - Letter and Brochure from Kilrush Town
ncil Noted by Councillors.

er from Bluestack Communications – Local Government Reform Conference 25th & 26th April, 2013.
ed by Councillors

er from Carlow Tourism – Carlow Tourism National Conference - The Gathering: Diaspora Tourism
ters - 18th to 20th April, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Any Other Business

Seats at the Walks

Maier thanked Mr. Mulryan for the two new seats which were put in place at the Walks, Loughrea.

Upgrade to Water Treatment Plant, Lake Road, Loughrea

or Bane asked for an update on the proposed upgrade to Water Treatment Plant on the Lake Road.
Cullen advised that the Water Department are waiting on confirmation of funding from the Department
nvironment.

Galway Road, Loughrea

or Bane complimented staff on the recent resurfacing work completed on the old Galway Road in
ghrea.

Loughrea Chamber of Commerce

or Bane advised the meeting that a new Chamber of Commerce has been elected in Loughrea. She
rmed the meeting that the new members are Mr. Reinhardt (President), Keith Spain, (Deputy
ident), Aoife Nash, (Secretary), Shane Donnellan, (Treasurer). Mayor Bane advised that the first event
h is a breakfast seminar with Gavin Duffy is taking place next Wednesday 10th April, 2013. Mayor Bane
d that letter be sent from Loughrea Town Council wishing them well and offering any co-operation
n Loughrea Town Council, supported by Cllr. G. Burke

Meeting

as agreed to hold the June meeting on Wednesday 5th June, 2013 and hold the Joint Policing Committee
Annual General Meeting on that night also. Ms. Hughes to confirm if Supt. Enda Walshe is available on
date. It was agreed to have to Joint Policing Committee meeting at 6.30 pm followed by the Annual
eral Meeting followed by the Monthly meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

Geraldine Bane

Date: _____

13/5/13

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 11th March, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Cllr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. S. Burke

High:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11th February, 2013.

The proposal of Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr. Curley the minutes of the February monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Used Bus Stop Athenry Road, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Regan, Ms. Hughes advised that no correspondence has been received from C.I.E. as a result of additional correspondence sent to C.I.E. as requested at the February monthly meeting.

Dogs fouling in Loughrea Town

In reply to Mayor Bane, Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that he has spoken to Superintendent Garda Enda Sheehy of Loughrea Garda Station, and what is proposed is that the Environment Department of Galway County Council are going to select one or possibly two days in the coming months, perhaps accompanied by Gardaí and patrol around Loughrea Town socially, reminding people of the responsibilities of dog ownership and to provide people with a leaflet and generally raise awareness. If it is found action needs to be taken fines will issue. Mr. Cullen also advised the meeting that he has spoken to the Gardaí and they are supportive.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from St. Brigids Vocational School requesting funding for students for 2013 Junk

Structure(recycling) fashion show finals. Noted by Councillors. Cllr. Nix asked that Loughrea Town Council support the group and asked that a letter of support be sent from Loughrea Town Council. Mr. Cullen suggested that the group forward the request to the Environment Department of Galway County Council and that the Council may be in a position to assist.

Message from Castlebar Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted

(a) "That this Council resolves to request the Minister for the Environment to amend the legislation in relation to private rented dwellings to enable the PRTB to publish on their website the landlord's name, in the case of all rented accommodation, thus ensuring more transparency and thereby ensuring that landlords take more responsibility for the behavior of their tenants. If adopted circulate to all councils seeking their support and seek the support of our five Mayo T.D.'s."

Noted by Councillors

Message from Ardee Town Council - Notice of Motion adopted

(a) "We the members of this Council call for the resignation of the Minister for Health, James Reilly. His tenure as Minister since the establishment of this government has been one crisis after another and he should be replaced immediately." **Noted by Councillors**

Message from National 1978 Rebellion Centre – Letter and Brochure regarding Conference “A decade of commemorations” taking place on 13th April, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Message from IA – Brochure regarding Spring Seminar “ Local Authorities in Ireland; New Challenges – New opportunities” taking place on 5th & 6th April, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Message from Cork County Council – Preliminary notice of Cork County Council’s Annual Mayor’s Conference on 25th May, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Message from Greystones Town Council – Preliminary notice of 2013 La Touche Legacy Seminar (celebrating 25 years) taking place 27th to 29th September, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Message from I.P.A. on “An Introduction to Irish Planning Law” book which is available for purchase. Noted by Councillors

Message from Westport Conference organizers – Notice of “The Westport Conference” taking place from 20th to 21st April, 2013. Noted by Councillors

Message from Special Olympics Ireland regarding “10th Anniversary of the 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games” which occurs in 2013. Noted by Councillors

Message from Galway City Council Newsletter - February, 2013 issue. Noted by Councillors

Message from An Taisce regarding the National Spring Clean 2013 from 1st to 30th April 2013. Noted by Councillors

Loughrea Town Hall

Mr. Regan asked Mr. Cullen what was the current position with the Town Hall and was there any proposal for the use of old Loughrea Town Council funds for the development of Loughrea Town Hall.

Mr. Cullen updated the meeting advising that an application for funding was made to Galway Rural Development and this application is on hold, he advised that the Corporate Services Department of Galway City Council have instructed Architects to prepare a more detailed costing in relation to the Town Hall, which will be done as quickly as possible and once completed we will have an idea of scale of funding required to prevent the condition of the Town Hall from getting any worse. Mr. Cullen stated that the

Town Hall was the single biggest outstanding project for the Town Council. Mr. Cullen advised he felt that appropriate for Loughrea Town Council funds to be spent on this project.

Regan proposed that Loughrea Town Council wait a couple of months for Mr. Cullen to come back to Town Councillors with figures for funding for Loughrea Town Hall, before deciding on any other funding requests.

Mayor Bane asked that the meeting proceed to discuss the two requests for funding received:

Lough Rea Lake Trail – Phase 3 – Correspondence circulated in advance of the meeting – letter requesting funding for Aerial Survey of proposed Loughrea Lake Trail – Phase 3.

Loughrea Tennis Club - Correspondence circulated in advance of the meeting – letter regarding funding from Loughrea Town Council

Mayor Bane informed the meeting that the Tennis Club have provided the Town Councillors with more information on their request for funding which has been circulated, she stated that they currently have a shortfall of funding in the amount of €18,500, and they stand to lose the grant of €50,000 received if they do not raise the total amount of money required to fully complete the works necessary.

Mayor Bane referred to the request for funding from Corporate Services regarding Lough Rea Lake Trail - Phase 3 and the possibility of Loughrea Town Council funding the aerial survey which is recommended to be carried out costing approximately €5,000.

Cullen stated that these are two applications; the likelihood is that there will be hundreds of applications for funding equally worthy.

Hynes advised that he had initiated the lakeshore walk project in 2006 when he was Mayor of County Galway and phase 1 and 2 are now complete, a further application has been lodged with Galway Rural Development between Loughrea Lake Shore Walk Committee and the Corporate Services Section of Galway County Council.

Following discussion on the two requests for funding received that is Lough Rea Lake Trail – Phase 3 and Loughrea Tennis Club, Cllr. Regan again proposed that Loughrea Town Council wait a couple of months for Mr. Cullen to come back to the Town Councillors with figures for funding for Loughrea Town Hall, before deciding on any other funding requests. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. G. Burke, and supported also by Cllr. Morgan.

Any Other Business

Moore Street

G. Burke asked that a ramp be put in place on Moore Street, as the traffic speed is dangerous. Mr. Mulryan advised that he would investigate the matter and look at getting a costing. He stated that funding is likely to be an issue.

Cutting

G. Burke raised the issue of turf cutting and people's right to cut turf on their own bogs, following discussion by Councillors, Cllr. G. Burke asked that Town Councillors support the motion "that Loughrea Town Council supports the right of people to cut turf in their own bogs" Cllr. Regan seconded the motion. The motion was not agreed and Mayor Bane proposed that a vote be taken, seconded by Cllr. Maher. The vote was taken and the votes were counted:

In favour: Cllr G. Burke, Cllr. Hynes, Cllr. Regan

Against: Cllr. S. Burke, Cllr. Nix, Cllr. Morgan, Cllr. Maher, Mayor Bane

ained from Vote: Cllr. Curley

ne vote was not successful the motion was not agreed.

er Meters on Main Street

Mahe raised the issue of Water Meters on Main Street and stated that they were a trip hazard. Mr. ryan advised that he will bring the matter to the attention of Water Services Department of Galway nty Council.

le Banks

Mahe asked if information could be sought on the number of fines issued at Bottle Banks whereby ole leave rubbish behind at bottle banks. Mr. Mulryan advised he will investigate and raise the matter Community Wardens.

atricks Day Parade

Mahe advised that the St. Patrick's Day parade was taking place on Sunday 17th March, 2013 in hrea.

al Dumping of Rubbish

Morgan raised the issue of persons dumping their rubbish into bins which others have left out for ction.

aged Trees in Loughrea

Morgan asked that those who damaged trees in Loughrea be made pay for the damage caused. Mulryan advised that a quotation has been prepared and forwarded to the Gardaí, who have a suspect are following up on the matter.

Warden

Morgan proposed that the Council would allocate some days per month for the Dog Warden to be ent in Loughrea. Mr. Cullen clarified that Galway County Council has two Dog Wardens who cover the le County and it is very much a response based system. He advised that it is not possible to assign the Warden for specific days, as the Dog Wardens respond to demands as necessary.

al Dumping on Castle Street

Regan raised the issue of illegal dumping on Castle Street. Mr. Mulryan advised that the bags have i examined, and he has requested that the Environment Department issue letters requesting proof eople living at the location as to how they are disposing of their waste. Mr. Mulryan advised that he ave the waste removed in the interim.

onal Spring Clean Month

Nix advised the meeting that National Spring Clean month is from 1st to 30th April, 2013, and any help n to communities and groups to assist in clean ups will be appreciated.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

Geraldine Stone

Date: _____

8/4/13

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 11th February, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Deputy Chair:

Cllr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. S. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes

Guests:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Mr. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Apologies : Cllr. G. Burke

Resolution of Sympathy

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:

Family of Detective Gardaí Adrian Donohoe, Co. Louth.

Family of Dr. Joseph Cassidy, former Archbishop of Tuam, and Bishop of Clonfert.

Mr. Norman Morgan & family of Gemma Daniels, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

It was agreed to send letters of sympathy and mass card to families of the deceased.

Mayor Bane postponed the meeting for two minutes as a mark of respect.

Confirmation of the Minutes of Special meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 14th January, 2013

In the proposal of Cllr Morgan seconded by Cllr Curley the minutes of the Special meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 14th January, 2013

In the proposal of Cllr Maher seconded by Cllr Morgan the minutes of the January monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Unused Bus Stop Athenry Road, Loughrea

Ms. Hughes informed the meeting that City Link have advised they will look at including the bus stop in question when they are reviewing the bus schedule for Summer months, C.I.E. have advised that they will not be utilising the bus stop in question. Cllr. Regan advised he was not happy with the response and could the Town Council write again to C.I.E, and send copy of the letter to the Minister for Transport. It was agreed that Ms. Hughes will liaise with Cllr. Regan with regard to issuing a further letter.

Mr Nix raised the issue of an unused bus stop at The Hill, Loughrea.

Quarter Travel

Mayor Bane welcomed the additional crossing on the Gort Road at the opening to the lake. Mr. Mulryan advised that funding was approved for an additional pedestrian crossing on the N66 (Gort Road) adjacent to the lake side car park, he advised that works on site were at an advanced stage and it is anticipated that the crossing will be commissioned in the coming weeks.

Mr. Hynes asked if the wall at the opening of the lake side car park on the N66 Gort Road could be examined, he outlined concerns regarding visibility when existing on to the N66.

Mr. Mulryan advised that there were no problems with sight lines at this location.

Mr's Hynes and Maher congratulated Mr. Mulryan on the provision of an additional crossing at the opening of the lake.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Notice from Mid-West Regional Authority re. 18th Annual Conference 28th February-1st March, 2013.
Noted by Councillors

Any Other Business

Retail Excellence Ireland Survey

Mayor Bane advised the meeting that Retail Excellence Ireland had carried out a survey of the top rated towns in Ireland, she went on to say that Loughrea did not feature very well, the rating categories included parking facilities, and the cost of parking.

Mr Regan asked if there could be free parking for a couple of hours on a Saturday morning. Cllr Curley advised that Tipperary Town Council have given free parking up to 1 o'clock on a Saturday. Mr. Cullen advised the meeting to be mindful of the situation in relation to parking prior to the introduction parking system in Loughrea Town.

Discussion took place regarding Disabled Parking Bays in Loughrea Town and the feasibility of putting one in place on Abbey Street. Mr. Mulryan advised that the inclusion of disabled Parking bays is part of the Traffic Management Plan for Loughrea. Mr. Cullen advised that illegal parking in disabled parking bays need to be enforced.

Loughrea Town Hall

Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that Galway County Council has applied to Galway Rural Development for funding for conservation works on Loughrea Town Hall.

Dog Fouling in Loughrea Town

Mayor Bane advised that Limerick City Council had an awareness campaign. Cllr Regan advised that dogs are allowed to go into the lake at the Long point area by their owners. Cllr Nix advised that the criteria for Blue Flags have gone up this year, and it will be more difficult to retain Blue Flags in the future.

Mayor Bane asked if an information leaflet could be drawn up and if the Community Wardens could hand out for an afternoon at various locations, such as Corry's field and the long point. Mr. Cullen said he would look at the possibility of having a handout prepared.

Mr Maher advised that the Environment Department of Galway County Council are working on preparing a new thermoplastic symbol for using on the footpaths which will be more prominent. Mr. Mulryan advised

... had provided a costing for the provision of thermoplastic anti dog fouling symbol to the Environment Department and it is hoped that funding will be made available in the coming months.

Mr. Cullen advised that the Community Wardens will be checking dog licences over the coming months.

Walkway around Loughrea Lake

Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that Galway County Council has made an application to Galway Rural Development Company to fund the next stage of the walkway around Loughrea Lake. He advised that to advance with the project an Aerial Survey needs to be completed. Mr. Cullen proposed to Loughrea Town Councillors' that Loughrea Town Council fund this survey. He advised that he would circulate information in advance of the March meeting and discuss at meeting.

Loughrea Tennis Club

Mayor Bane advised that Loughrea Tennis Club had received a Capital Sports Grant of €50,000, she advised that the planned works were costing €90,000, the tennis club have secured a loan, but there is still a shortfall of approximately €20,000, she asked if the Town Council could be of any assistance. It was agreed to discuss at the March meeting. Mr. Mulryan advised that the Loughrea Tennis Club should prepare a proposal for Loughrea Town Council prior to discussing at meeting.

Mr. Joseph Cassidy

Mr. Hynes paid tribute to Dr. Joseph Cassidy, former Bishop of Clonfert and former Archbishop of Tuam, saying that Dr. Cassidy was a very humble man who sympathized with the poor and less fortunate.

Mr. Morgan also paid tribute to Dr. Joseph Cassidy.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____

Geraldine Done

Date: _____

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 14th January, 2013, in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Members:
Cllr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes

Guests:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Mr. L. Hughes, Town Clerk

Agendas:

Cllr. S. Burke

Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual Budget meeting held on 10th December, 2012

The proposal of Cllr Maher seconded by Cllr G. Burke the minutes of the December Budget meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 10th December, 2012

The proposal of Cllr Morgan seconded by Cllr Regan the minutes of the December monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

Matters Arising

Quarter Travel

Ms. Mulryan enquired if there were plans to install bollards outside the Cathedral on Barrack Street where the ramp was installed at the junction of Piggot Street and Barrack Street as part of the Quarter Travel projects. She said there was a problem with illegal parking on the footpaths at mass times. Mr. Mulryan advised that there were no plans to install bollards, he advised the issue is illegal parking, and enforcement of same. He will prepare a cost estimate for installing bollards he stated that currently there are no funds available.

Used Bus Stop Athenry Road, Loughrea

Mr. Hughes advised that correspondence had been sent to C.I.E. and City Link in relation to the unused bus stop at Supervalu on the Athenry Road, to date no reply has been received from either bus operator. Ms. Mulryan will make further contact with both bus operators.

Christmas Parking 2012

Mr. Regan complimented the free parking which was in operation in Loughrea Car parks on the Saturdays leading up to Christmas.

Amendment to the bye-laws for Car parking in Loughrea Town

Cllr. Maher asked if as discussed at the December meeting of the Loughrea Area Committee if the draft proposed amendment to the bye-laws for car parking in Loughrea Town, which was to allow for a €30 per month charge for car parks will be introduced. This matter is to be investigated.

Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Gabriel Burke

He will propose:

***That all cash for gold and metal merchants be regulated so as items sold can be traced back to owner”
Seconded Mayor Bane, following discussion it was agreed that a recommendation be sent to the
Department of Justice and Equality from Loughrea Town Council and to all Town Councils.***

Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan

He will propose:

***That a recommendation be sent to Galway County Council to have remedied the flooding that takes
place at the entrance gate to The Walks, adjacent to Kilboy’s Funeral Parlour, Railway Road, Loughrea”.
Seconded Cllr. Maher. Cllr. Maher advised that Loughrea area Councilors may be willing to put some
of the Notice of Motion money towards the cost of drainage works, Mr. Mulryan to prepare costing.***

***That a recommendation be made to Director of Services, Mr. Jim Cullen, to arrange a meeting with Mrs.
Ursula Marmion-Mooney, with a view to discussing possible uses for Loughrea Town Hall. Last year Ursula
was the Overall Winner of the County Mayoral Awards, for works in restoring Portumna’s Old Workhouse.
Ursula has indicated to me, that she would be willing to help in every possible way regarding the future of
Loughrea Town Hall”.*** ***Seconded Cllr. Hynes***

***Correspondence received from Ms. Marmion-Mooney was circulated to the meeting. Mr. Cullen advised
that he is willing to meet with Ms. Marmion-Mooney if necessary at the correct point in time for the
project. Mr. Cullen advised that it is the intention of Galway County Council to apply to Galway Rural
Development for funding for the Town Hall Project.***

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee re. Invitation for Submissions
Seconded by Councillors

Letter from An Garda Síochána regarding rodent problem at Old Galway Road
Seconded by Councillors. Ms. Hughes advised the meeting that she had forwarded this issue to the HSE to
investigate.

MAI – Brochure regarding AMAI Spring Seminar 2013 – 15th & 16th February, 2013.
Seconded by Councillors

Letter from Monaghan Town Council - Notices of Motion adopted

(a) ***“That this council calls for a minimum jail term for anyone convicted of assaulting or threatening the
life of a frontline emergency worker such as an on-duty garda, fireman, ambulance worker or nurse”***
Noted by Councillors, Proposed to support: Cllr. G. Burke, Seconded Mayor Bane

(b) That this Council calls for legislation to limit the height of overly tall boundary trees (such as leylandi) which affect a neighbour's "right of light" by casting excessive shade over another person's property" *Noted by Councillors*

Message from Ireland Waste Water – Announcing the Introduction of the Inspection of Septic Tanks and Announcement of grant scheme for upgrading of septic tanks.
Noted by Councillors

Message from Ursula Marmion regarding funding for Loughrea Town Hall
Noted by Councillors

Any Other Business

Illegal Dumping

Mr. Bane raised the issue of illegal dumping at private property on the Old Galway Road, Loughrea. Mr. Mulryan advised that the Environment Section can issue notices if the owners can be identified. Ms. Hughes is bringing the issue of illegal dumping to the attention of the Environment Section of Galway County Council. Nix raised the issue of illegal dumping at the long point.

Bicycle Rack

Mr. Maher asked if a bicycle rack could be put in place on Main Street, Loughrea. Mr. Mulryan advised that bicycle racks will be installed at Fitzzy's corner as part of Smarter Travel Project in the coming weeks. There is no provision for installing bicycle racks on Main Street.

Unpaved Footpath at junction of Bride Street and Moore Street

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that he would have this matter investigated and rectified.

Bohercom

Mr. Maher raised the issue of water lodging outside houses on Bohercom, after recent works carried out. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that additional gullies had been put in place as part of the works carried out and he advised that Galway County Council resurface the road width only, the area directly outside properties is the responsibility of the property owners.

Illegal Dumping at Breda

Mr. Maher raised the issue of illegal dumping at Gort Bride which needs to be addressed.

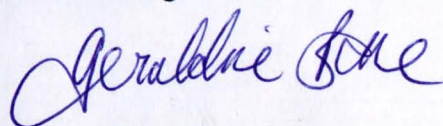
Costing for Bins on Main Street

Mr. Maher asked if a costing be prepared for new Standardised bins for Main Street in Loughrea Town. Mr. Mulryan advised that funding was the issue, as it is expected that Town Maintenance budgets will be reduced again this year, he would welcome any Notice of Motion money which Councillors put forward. He will prepare a costing.

Fouling in Loughrea Town

Mr. Regan raised the issue of dogs fouling on streets in Loughrea Town, and asked if there was anything that could be done to address the problem. Mr. Cullen advised that the issue is very difficult to enforce as the problem is countrywide.

This concluded the business of the meeting



Minutes of proceedings of Special meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 14th January, 2013,
in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Mr. G. Bane - Mayor
Cllr. J. Curley
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. N. Morgan
Cllr. J. Regan
Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Cllr. P. Hynes

Deputy Ciaran Cannon
Deputy Colm Keaveney
Deputy Micheal Kitt
Deputy Paul Connaughton

Guests:
Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Mr. L. Hughes, A/Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. S. Burke

Mr. Bane welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Deputies for making time to attend.

Agenda Item 1. Are you aware of any threat to the Ambulance bay located at St. Brendan's Home, Loughrea in light of the development of the new ambulance bay in Tuam?

Deputy Cannon advised that he had spoken to Mr. Paudi O'Riordan, and Mr. O'Riordan has advised him that there is no threat to the Ambulance Bay located at St. Brendan's home in Loughrea as a result of new Ambulance Bay in Tuam.

Deputy Kitt advised that Tuam have been looking for Ambulance Bay for a long period of time due to large population which it will service.

Deputy Keaveney feels the new Ambulance Bay in Tuam will complement Loughrea and should relieve pressure from Loughrea and enhance the services in Galway.

Deputy Connaughton advised that there were no issues raised with him, and no threat to the Ambulance Bay in Loughrea.

Agenda Item 2. What are your views on the abolishment of Town Councils?

Deputy Connaughton advised that the abolishment of the Town Councils is coming from the Local Government Department, and while it is a drastic change, it will increase numbers of County Councillors and get rid of Town Councils, which overall will leave a smaller number of Councillors, with more power.

Deputy Keaveney advised he is concerned about the abolishment of Town Councils, there is a lot more work to be done, and the next couple of months are critical regarding what will be retained within the communities, which will be complemented by additional area Councillors. He feels for Loughrea that the Municipal District will enhance the role of Councillors in Loughrea.

Deputy Kitt advised the meeting that he feels cutbacks have contributed to the reduction in Councillors from 1,600 to 1,200 and the abolishment of Town Councils. There is also the issue of moving democracy away from the people, currently there is 1 Councillor per 2,800 people, which will now be 1 Councillor per 4,800 people. He stated Ireland has the most centralised government in Europe. There will be ring-fenced funding in certain areas. The new changes on property, and water need clarity as to where will the collected money be spent.

Deputy Cannon advised that he supports the abolishment of Town Councils which will be replaced by Municipal Districts which is part of the overall package for reform which is "Putting People First". He advised he had spoken to Councillors who felt powerless in their roles. The Municipal Districts which will be put in place will give Councillors the powers.

Deputy Hynes asked the Deputies when will the commissioned report be made available to the public, he asked what will the number of Councillors be in each area? He went on to state that there is confusion over Municipal Districts.

Deputy Cannon advised in reply to Cllr. Hynes that the process of deciding on each Municipal District area is underway, and any person is welcome to make submission on Municipal Districts, he went on to say that his understanding is that there will be 39 seats in Galway County Council and powers of Councillors will be enhanced. Deputy Cannon went on to state that with 9 to 10 Councillors representing Loughrea, with the reform their powers will be greatly enhanced, in 1977 decision making powers were taken away from Councillors, power is now being given back.

G. Burke stated that the Local Town Councillors meet people locally and bring their issues and problems, he feels the power should be given to existing Town Councillors.

Nix welcomed powers which will be given to Councillors.

Agenda Item 3: Unemployment in Loughrea

- Will any of the new jobs to be created by this government benefit the town of Loughrea?
- Will the new TUS and SOLUS programmes increase the number of people that can work in Loughrea?

Deputy Maher stated that Loughrea has been derelict of jobs for the last number of years. The number of Council staff has been reduced.

Deputy Cannon advised that he attended a meeting in Dublin recently chaired by the Taoiseach, the Taoiseach stated that the focus is on job creation and to foster job creation across the country. He advised that from 2011 to 2013, 12,000 new jobs have been created in the Private Sector, many of which were assisted by the IDA. 1,000 jobs have been created in County Galway, although mainly in Galway City. The Local Loughrea Enterprise Group are trying to get the IDA to invest in Loughrea.

Deputy Cannon went on to say that the M6 Motorway gives Loughrea sufficient infrastructure, although Galway City remains as a magnet for companies. Deputy Cannon went on to confirm that new places have been added to the TUS programme in the recent budget, and it's incumbent that Loughrea make a case for additional places. In relation to SOLUS he advised that SOLUS is consolidating further Education and Training to enable people to secure jobs. In Galway there is a shortage of persons with I.C.T. and Medical Training for employment opportunities.

Deputy Connaughton advised that the I.D.A. go abroad to bring Companies back to Ireland, Galway City is actively one of the first choices for companies, the IDA do not stipulate any particular location to companies. Deputy Connaughton went on to say that the TUS and SOLUS programmes have a great impact on communities and will be very positive going forward.

Deputy Kitt said he welcomed what has been done to date with TUS and SOLUS Programmes. He went on to state that Enterprise Boards were working well in Galway. Deputy Kitt went on to state that he has concerns for Galway Regional Development as funding is now being administered through Galway County Council.

Deputy Keaveney stated that the 20% decrease in construction work has a huge impact, he went on to state that his main focus for job creation is re-training and personal development for long term unemployed. Deputy Keaveney advised he was in favour of Galway County Enterprise Boards being integrated into Galway County Council.

Hynes asked Deputies present if they could address anomalies which exist within the TUS and SOLUS programmes, he went on to say that when a person completes 3 years on a Community Employment Scheme; there is nothing available to them.

Curley stated that there are 2,300 currently unemployed in Loughrea, small businesses are having to close down, he asked Deputies if there were any plans to address this issue.

Nix asked what will happen when the 12 month period for TUS workers is reached, Deputy Cannon advised that Peter Burton is looking at streamlining the process.

Mr. Burke stated that there are between 200,000 and 250,000 undocumented unemployed in Ireland, who cannot access social welfare as they were previously self employed. Deputy Keaveney advised that in the budget for 2013 self employed workers can now make social welfare contributions

da Item 4: Can you give assistance in securing additional Smarter Travel funding in 2013 to benefit Loughrea?

Deputy Cannon congratulated officials of Galway County Council on their submission to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, for Smarter Travel funding for Loughrea which was highly commended. Deputy Cannon also complimented Cllr. Maher who championed Smarter Travel when he was Mayor of Galway County Council.

Deputy Connaughton advised he would assist in securing further funding for Smarter Travel.

da Item 6 Can the C.I.S. and L.I.S. schemes be made more available to assist communities develop their areas?

Deputy Connaughton advised that the L.I.S. were suspended last year, he advised that there may be a change to C.I.S. schemes giving communities more involvement.

da Item 7 – Can the Minister be asked to lift the ban on recruitment so that the Council can take on additional jobs?

Deputy Keaveney advised that the current Recruitment embargo has been put in place by the Troika. He feels that the Job Bridge programme is very positive and Galway County Council are very proactive in utilising the programme.

da Item 8 – What is the current status of the Extension to St. Raphels' School in Loughrea?

Deputy Cannon stated he was aware that the condition of St. Raphels' school is very bad. There are prefabs to be put in place at St. Raphels', by September, 2013.

Deputy Connaughton advised he had visited St. Raphels' School, he advised that the art room in particular is in very poor condition, he said he feels St. Raphels school should be near the top of the list for new schools.

Deputy Kitt stated that a replacement building is needed badly for St. Raphels' School.

Mr. Burke stated that plans for a new school were in place two years ago, and there was an agreed site, he asked why it had not advanced since.

Deputy Connaughton advised that a lot of school projects get to that stage and don't go ahead due to funding issues.

da Item 9 – Policing – What impact will the closure of Garda Stations have on Loughrea.

Deputy Kitt stated that a lot of evidence leads towards the fact that the Motorway is used to commit burglaries and is done very quickly, he feels that Community Alert is working well. Deputy Kitt advised that there is to be funding for more Garda cars this year. He advised that the proposal is that there will be 10 closures of rural Garda stations in Galway, 9 of which are in this constituency. He stated that more Garda were needed in the Country.

Deputy Connaughton stated that Community Alert schemes are working very well all over the countryside, he stated that more Garda need to be resourced.