

Deputy Keaveney advised that he was putting a submission together suggesting that the Gardai assigned to a region be allowed to utilise vacant Gardai Stations to use the available accommodation and also have a presence in the community.

Deputy Maher stated that Gardai need to have checkpoints in place on the Motorways as this is the escape route used by criminals.

Deputy O'Keefe stated that she felt new Gardai Cars will be replacing existing cars being taken off the road.

Deputy Regan stated that he was not happy with any cutbacks in the Gardai service.

Deputy Nix stated that all Cash for Gold outlets should be regulated, and there should be a campaign aimed at older people advising of the risk of keeping cash in their homes as they are often the target for burglaries.

B.

Deputy Hynes asked if there was a threat as to the closure of Post Offices.

Deputy Keaveney stated that An Post is in the process of developing services outside of postage services in order to allow them to remain viable. He stated that the Regulator should allow An Post to broaden its services outside of postal services.

Deputy Kitt stated that he felt there was no danger to larger Post Offices, he feels there may be a threat to smaller offices.

Deputy Maher stated that Loughrea Post Office is in need of an upgrade, as there is very limited space for customers and staff.

Deputy Hynes advised that he had made representations on behalf of staff and customers.

Deputy Hynes requested that money be found for Gort to Tuam Motorway and asked that this project be commenced in 2011. Deputy Cannon advised that the Tuam to Gort Motorway is still live.

In reply to Cllr. Hynes, Deputy Cannon advised that there is no funding for Galway Airport, he advised that support would be given to Shannon Airport which will benefit Loughrea.

Deputy Hynes requested that the Deputies press for the completion of Railway between Athenry and Loughrea.

Deputy Hynes stated that the County Development Board, and Galway County & City Enterprise Board are going to be merged into Local Authorities, they are performing very well currently.

Deputy O'Keefe thanked the Deputies for the time given to meeting with Loughrea Town Councillors.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Geraldine O'Keefe

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 10th December, 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

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. S. Burke
Cllr. P. Hynes

Figures: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. L. Hughes, A/Town Clerk

Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th November 2012.

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

Matters Arising

Special Meeting

Ms Hughes advised the meeting that she has been in contact with the TD's in the Constituency and the date for the Special meeting will be finalised in the next day or two. Ms Hughes will be in contact with Councillors once date has been agreed. Items for consideration for inclusion on the Agenda to be forwarded to Ms Hughes.

It was agreed that the following items would be included on the Agenda:

- Location of Ambulance Bay at St. Brendan's Home
- Abolishment of Town Councils
- Unemployment in Loughrea.

Mayor Bane advised the meeting that she has been in contact with Deputy Paul Connaughton and he was not aware of any issue regarding the relocation of the Ambulance bay at St. Brendan's home in Loughrea.

Active Travel Towns Funding Programme Stream 2 Sub-set 2012(Smaller Towns)

Loughrea, Co. Galway

Mr Maher expressed his gratitude for all the work carried out by Mr Mulryan on the Smarter Travel projects in Loughrea Town, and the success of the projects undertaken.

Mayor Bane raised the issue of the newly plastered wall at Fitzy's corner and suggested the idea of making a feature of the wall, in recognition of Kieran Fitzgerald, a sporting hero from Loughrea.

Mr G. Burke suggested that the corner be called Kieran Fitzgerald's corner, as he is the most high profile sports person from Loughrea. It was suggested that Galway County Council put plaques in place, and the local sports clubs can then remember their hero's on these plaques.

Unused Bus Stop Athenry Road, Loughrea

In reply to Cllr. Regan, Ms Hughes advised that contact had been made with C.I. E. regarding the unused bus stop at Supervalu on the Athenry Road. Cllr. Regan asked that further contact be made with C.I.E. and also City Link in relation to the use of the Bus Stop on Athenry Road.

Christmas Parking 2012

Mayor Bane welcomed the free parking initiative in Loughrea Town Council on the Saturdays prior to Christmas. In reply to Cllr G. Burke, Ms Hughes advised the meeting that the signs advertising free parking Loughrea car parks on Saturdays prior to Christmas will be put in place this week.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Ballinasloe Town Council re. Notice of Motion adopted

That this Council completely rejects the decision of the Minister of the Environment, Community and Local Government, Phil Hogan, T.D. to abolish all Town Councils. This Council is of the very firm view that abolishing the unit of Local Government closest to the people and indeed the most efficient unit of local government (Town Councils) certainly does not contribute in any way to bringing "local government" closer to the people. It is further proposed that this motion be circulated to all Local Authorities, T.D.'s, Senators in this State, to the AMAI and the Minister for local Government for their Consideration" **Noted by Councillors and agreed to support Notice of Motion**

Letter from Naas Town Council re. Notice of Motion adopted

Naas Town Council calls on the Minister for Finance to remove 23% VAT rate on digital school books in the forthcoming budget" **Noted by Councillors**

Letter from Ballybriggan Town Council re. Notice of Motion adopted

Ballybriggan Town Council calls on the Minister for the Environment, The Taoiseach and the The Tanaiste to meet Ballybriggan Town Council to discuss the impact the proposed abolition of the Council will have on the Town" **Noted by Councillors**

Letter from Bandon Town Council re. Notice of Motion adopted

That this Council writes to the Minister for Health calling on him to reverse the heartless cuts to Home Help and Home Care packages" **Noted by Councillors, Proposed to support Cllr G Burke, Seconded Cllr Wynes.**

Any Other Business

Congratulations

Cllrs expressed their congratulations to Mr Enda Mulryan and his wife Ann, on the recent birth of their son Arla, and asked that a card of congratulations be sent from Loughrea Town Councillors.

Water Treatment Plant

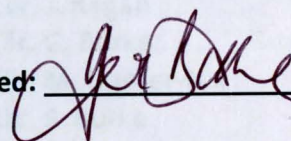
Cllr Cullen advised the meeting that Galway County Council will be upgrading the filtration system at the Water Treatment Plant at the Lake Road early in 2013. He advised that the works will take place over a number of days, and disruption will be kept to a minimum, he advised that after consultation with the S.E. a temporary boiled water notice will be put in place.

ousing

Mr G Burke raised the issue of vacant council houses in Loughrea Town and the number of people on the housing waiting list. Mr Cullen advised that the issue of demand and the fact that some people decide to stay in private rented dwellings is a factor, he also advised the Council are anxious to let all vacant houses.

Mayor Bane wished the meeting a happy and healthy Christmas, and went on to thank Mr. Cullen and Ms. Hughes for their assistance over the past six months.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: 

Date: 14/1/2013

Galway County Council Archives

Minutes of proceedings of Annual Budget meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 10th December, 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

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

1. Budget for Year Ending 2013

Budget Expenditure items

- **23 – Replace Seat at the Walks Loughrea - €1,350.00**
- **24 – Pathway to and around seat at Corry's Field - €1,300**
- **25 – Upgrade Energy Efficiency No. 4 Lakeview Replace - €7,945.00**

Mr. Cullen advised that when framing the Estimates for Loughrea Town Council he has included the above items as additional once off items, which if approved will be funded from Loughrea Town Council reserves, without any impact on the rate in Loughrea Town.

Budget Expenditure Item No. 23 - Replace Seat at the Walks - €1,350

Cllr. Maher asked if the money allocated in the Budget for the replacement of the seat in the walks could be allocated to Loughrea Tidy Towns, as the Loughrea Tidy Towns would be in a position to provide three concrete seats. Mr. Cullen advised that any such agreement must be agreed in advance with the Town Engineer.

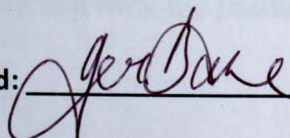
Budget Expenditure Item No.4 - Contribution to Loughrea Tidy Towns - €2,000

In reply to Cllr. S. Burke, and Cllr. Nix, Mr. Cullen clarified to the meeting that the contribution to the St. Patricks' Day Parade is included in the contribution to the Loughrea Tidy Towns which was increased in recent years.

On the proposal of Cllr Morgan seconded by Cllr S. Burke, it was agreed the Budget for 2013 as circulated be adopted and that the Demand of €76,285.00 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: _____



Date: _____

14/1/13

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 12th November, 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

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

Oifigh:

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 8th October, 2012.

On the proposal of Cllr Regan seconded by Cllr Maher the minutes of the October monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted with the following amendment in relation to Active Travel Towns Funding Programme Stream 2 Sub-set 2012(Smaller Towns) Loughrea, Co. Galway " Mayor Bane requested that Loughrea Town Council be informed prior to further submissions being made for Smarter Travel funding"

Matters Arising

Special Meeting

It was agreed to hold a special meeting of Loughrea Town Council on the 7th January, 2013 at 7.30 pm, and to invite the TD's in the Constituency. Cllr Curley asked that the agenda include the issue of the Ambulance Bay being kept in Loughrea at St. Brendan's home, as it may be under threat once the Ambulance Bay in Tuam is in place. It was suggested that Loughrea Town Council write to TD's in the constituency and advise that Loughrea Town Council are anxious that Ambulance Bay also remains in Loughrea. Cllr Regan suggested that the item of the Town Councils being abolished should be included on the agenda.

It was proposed by Cllr. Nix to send invitation now and advise that agenda for meeting will be circulated in advance. Cllr. Nix also asked that the issue of unemployment be included on the agenda.

Cllr G. Burke suggested we write to TD's now and inform them of these concerns regarding the ambulance bay.

Cllr Regan asked that Mayor Bane make contact with the Oireachtas members to ascertain what the position is in relation to the Ambulance Bay.

Mayor Bane asked the meeting that any items they wish to include on the agenda be brought to the December meeting where the agenda will be agreed.

Seat in Corry's Field

It was agreed that the issue of funding of €1,300 for the cost of installing footway to and around the seat and laying tarmacadam on the footway be included for discussion at budget meeting of Loughrea Town Council.

Signage

Discussion took place regarding illegal signage in Loughrea. Mr. Cullen advised if signs are placed in locations which may be dangerous to public they must be removed.

Lighting at the Walks Loughrea

Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that Electric Skyline have reported that the trees blocking light from the Public Lights in the walks have been trimmed back.

Active Travel Towns Funding Programme Stream 2 Sub-set 2012(Smaller Towns)

Loughrea, Co. Galway

Mr. Mulryan updated the meeting on the progress of the five projects underway in Loughrea as outlined below, he advised that if any member wish to view the drawings of the projects they are welcome to make contact the Loughrea Office.

| Project Ref No | Location | Progress Update for Loughrea Town Council Meeting on 12th November 2012 |
|----------------|--|--|
| 1 | Junction of Danesfort (L4196), Garrybreeda (L4199) & Bohercom (L8279) Roads with Bride Street (R446) | Designs have been completed and contract has been awarded with an anticipated commencement date for works on site of Wednesday next the 14 th of November 2012. Works will be completed on site over the coming weeks |
| 2 | Moore Street (R351) | Design has been completed and contract has been awarded. Works on site commenced on the 1 st of November 2012 and are substantially complete. |
| 3 | Cross Street (L4213) | Design has been completed and contracts have been awarded. Resurfacing element of works on Cross Street commenced on Tuesday the 30 th of October 2012 and is now complete. The Installation of speed ramps, zebra pedestrian crossing and signage to be completed over coming weeks. Works on installation of cycle racks and seating at Fitzys corner commenced on Monday the 12 th of November 2012 and will be completed over the coming weeks. |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 4 | Piggott Street (L8278), Church Street (L8277) & Barrack Street | Design has been completed and contract has been awarded. Works on site commenced on Tuesday the 30 th of October 2012 and are presently ongoing. Works will be completed on site over the coming weeks |
| 5 | Gort Road (N66), Galway Road (L4224), Athenry Road (N66) | Design has been completed and contract has been awarded for the provision of three Pelican Pedestrian Crossing on N66. Works on site commenced on Thursday the 8th of November 2012 and are presently ongoing. Works will be completed on site over the coming weeks |
| | | Design has been completed and contract has been awarded for the provision of one Zebra Crossing on Old Galway Road. Civil works on site commenced on Tuesday the 23 rd of October 2012 and are substantially complete. Remaining works are due to be completed over coming weeks |
| | | Works on installation of greenway to link N66 Athenry Road and St Laurence's Field Estate commenced on Tuesday the 9 th of October 2012 and are substantially complete. |

In reply to Cllr G. Burke, Mr Mulryan advised that there was no work being done on Garrybreeda Road, as part of this allocation for Smarter Travel.

In reply to Cllr Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that the crossing at the opening of the lake on the Gort Road (N66) is not included in the projects outlined above.

Cllr. Regan raised the issue of the bus stop on the Athenry Road at Supervalu and the fact that C.I.E. buses do not stop there. Mr. Mulryan to consult with Roads and Transportation unit in Galway County Council and ascertain what the position is.

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that works started on Fitzy's corner this morning.

Mayor Bane complimented Mr. Mulryan for all the work he has put into the Smarter Travel projects for Loughrea Town.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Macroom Town Council re. Notice of Motion adopted

"That this Council rejects the decision of the Minister of the Environment, Community and Local Government to abolish all Town and Borough Councils. While the members of Macroom Town Council recognise that there is a need for meaningful reform, the undemocratic way in which the Minister has proposed to eliminate the least expensive layer of Local

Government being Town and Borough Councils without debate defies the meaning of democracy in Politics"

Proposed by Cllr G. Burke, Seconded by Cllr Maher to support the motion.

Brochure from Clare Tourist Council and Clare County Council, details of National Tourism Conference taking place 17th & 18th & 19th January, 2013.

Invitation from the Furey Family commemorative committee to the official unveiling of the Furey Family commemorative plaque.

4. Any Other Business

Vandalism at the Walks

Cllr. Nix advised the meeting that there was a lot of vandalism in the Walks at Halloween and the issue had been reported to the Gardai.

Cllr. Maher asked that the cost of replacing the seat in the walks be included in the Estimates for 2013 when being prepared, Mr. Mulryan will prepare costing for replacement of the seat.

Plaque for World War One

Cllr Curley complement all who were involved in the organisation of the presentation and lecture in remembrance of the seven sons lost by the Furey Family in World War 1 and the unveiling of remembrance plaque on Saturday 10th November, 2012. Cllr Maher thanked Cllr Regan for donating the plaque, and Mr. Cullen for funding which was received from Galway County Council for the project, and Ms. Hughes for her assistance on the day.

The Gathering 2013

Cllr Nix enquired if Loughrea Town Council have any plans to co-operate with the Gathering 2013, she suggested that past members of Loughrea Town Council be invited back if they are away. Cllr Maher advised that Galway County Council have funding available for the Gathering 2013.

Footpath outside Loughrea Area Office

Cllr Maher advised that the footpath outside the Loughrea Office was very slippery and asked could it be power washed.

Parking for Christmas 2012

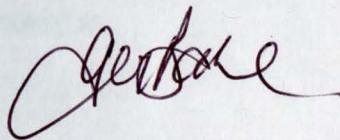
Cllr Regan raised the issue of having free parking on Saturday for the run up to Christmas. Mr. Cullen advised that the same approach will be taken as in previous years.

Mayor Bane, suggested to the meeting that in place of the Annual Dinner this year, we have finger food on the 10th December, 2012 after the Joint policing Committee meeting and before the Council Meeting.

The Agenda for December was agreed as follows:

6.30 p.m Joint Policing Committee meeting, followed by Budget meeting, followed by Monthly meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting

 10/12/12.

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 8th October, 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

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

Guests:

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

Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 10th September, 2012.

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

Matters Arising

Town Hall

In reply to Cllr Hynes, Mr. Cullen advised that the first stage will be to prepare a brief and appoint a consultant conservation architect, he advised that at this stage it was too early for anyone other than the officials to work on the project.

Invitation to Meeting

Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that he has spoken to Martina Moloney, County Manager regarding her attendance at a Loughrea Town Council meeting, the County Manager has advised Mr. Cullen that it is her intention to attend a meeting of Loughrea Town Council in the coming months.

Special Meeting

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke query on the invitation of the TD's in the Constituency and the I.D.A, on the recommendation of Cllr. Regan it was agreed that a special meeting would be held in January, 2013.

Seat in Corry's Field

Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he has been in contact with the National Parks and Wildlife Service and that the seat in question is outside of the protected area of conservation therefore the footway can be installed and tarmac laid on the footway to and around the seating bench. Mr. Mulryan advised that the cost will be approximately €1,300, and the issue of funding has to be looked at.

Signage

Cllr. Regan raised the issue of illegal signage remaining on the Roundabout at Cosmona. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting he will investigate the matter. Mayor Bane also raised the issue of illegal signage on the railing of the playground at the lake.

Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Monaghan Town Council re. Notice of Motions adopted - dated 1st October, 2012 Proposed by Cllr. G. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Hynes to support Item B – “That this Council call on the Minister for Finance to rescind his decision to withdraw tax relief for first time buyers from January, 2013”

(1) Notice of Motion – Cllr Norman Morgan

I will propose:

(a) “That the trees in the Walks, especially on the east side thereof, which are blocking the public lighting be trimmed back, so that maximum benefit may be available to the public who use this Public Park during the hours of darkness” **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Seconded Cllr. Maher, Cllr Maher asked that the trees in question be removed, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he will make contact with Electric Skyline to determine if the trees in question are blocking the public lighting, if this is the case he will get a cost estimate for removal or cutting back of the trees.**

(b) “That a report be given to Loughrea Town Council regarding the frequency of attendances of the Dog Warden at Loughrea Town Council’s Corry’s Field Public Park, and of the number of fines administered against dog handlers who have broken the law thereat by not having a dog in their custody on a dog lead, and or have not removed dog poo deposited by the dog in their custody in the Park, whether on the pathways or on the grass. Also, a similar report regarding dogs on Loughrea Streets” **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Seconded Mayor Bane Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that he will bring the issue to the attention of the Environment Department of Galway County Council.**

(c) “That a recommendation be sent to Galway County Council to consider purchasing the house on the south east corner of the junction of Piggot Street and Main Street, Loughrea, and to have this house removed and the said junction brought up to a proper standard” **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Not Seconded**

Any Other Business

Remembrance Garden at St. Brendan’s Community Nursing Home

Cllr. Nix advised the meeting that the Director of Services, St. Brendan’s Community Nursing Home had approached her with regard to the Town Council giving a small contribution towards the remembrance garden at St. Brendan’s home loughrea, Cllr. Nix asked that when estimates are being prepared that consideration be given to making a small contribution towards the remembrance garden.

Galway Senior Hurling Team Homecoming

Cllr. G. Burke congratulated the County Galway Senior Hurling Team on their achievement in getting to the All-Ireland Hurling final and expressed disappointment that the homecoming was held in Pearse stadium only and that the team did not stop in local towns such as Ballinasloe, or Loughrea.

Active Travel Towns Funding Programme Stream 2 Sub-set 2012(Smaller Towns)

Loughrea, Co. Galway

Mr. Mulryan advised that meeting that on 18th September, 2012, Galway County Council were successful in securing funding of €425,000 for Smarter Travel under the Active Travel Towns Funding stream. Mr. Mulryan circulated the submission which was made by Galway County Council to the Department of Transport for five approved projects in Loughrea Town along with drawings for the proposed works and went through each project and the works which are to be carried out.

Cllr G. Burke expressed his disappointment in hearing of the secured funding from outside of Galway County Council, in reply Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that the announcement was made on the 18th September, 2012 and this meeting has been his first opportunity to advise Loughrea Town Council on the matter.

He advised that meeting that GCC had engaged the services of Consulting Engineers to prepare designs for the various elements of the scheme which would allow for appropriate procurements of services necessary to complete the works, however he noted that given the fact that a large number of the designs had yet to be finalized and taking into account the time frame for the completion of the project by the end of November 2012 it would not be possible to bring all the detailed designs before the Loughrea Town Council members prior to commencing the works and as such he would be advancing the various elements of the schemes as the designs are finalized.

He provided a copy of drawings to each member which formed the detailed design for works on the following streets within Loughrea Town

- Cross Street
- Piggott Street
- Church Street
- Barrack Street

These works consisted of the implementation of traffic calming measures on both Cross and Barrack Streets, the installation of controlled and uncontrolled pedestrian crossing facilities along with the resurfacing of Cross, Piggott and Church Streets. The works also include for the implementation of a one way traffic management system as follows on the following streets in Loughrea Town:

- Piggott Street becoming a one-way street on a permanent basis with traffic flow in a North to South direction (i.e. from Main Street to Barrack Street only).
- Church Street becoming one-way street on permanent basis with traffic flow in a South to North direction (i.e. from Church Street onto Main Street only) from Galway County Council's Library (Old Church of Ireland Building) to its junction with Main Street only with the remainder of Church Street remaining two-way.

He outlined that the above traffic management system in relation to Church Street differed from the original proposal brought before the members during April meeting of Loughrea Town Council, however this changes was associated with a period of consultation with the residents and business on the street and he advised that this was the best comprise solution that was available to address the concerns of a particular business on the street while in tandem improving traffic flow and safety for all road users.

Finally he outlined proposal for the following works as part of the funding secured under Active Travel Towns for Loughrea Town for which designs works were underway but not yet finalised:

- Controlled Pedestrian Crossing Facility of Bride Street (R446) at Danesfort , Garrybreeda and Bohercom Junction.
- Provision of Greenway (Shared Pedestrian & Cycle Track) to Link St Laurence's Field Estate with N66 Athenry Road at the Loughrea Hotel.
- Provision of Controlled Pedestrian Crossing on the N66 Athenry Road, Old Galway Road and N66 Gort Road.

Following discussion on the projects and the one way system being put in place on Piggot and Church Streets, it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Michael Owens for all his work in originally putting Loughrea Town forward for funding.

Plaque for World War One

Cllr Maher advised the meeting that on Saturday 10th November, 2012 at 3 pm there will be a presentation and lecture in remembrance of the seven sons lost by the Furey Family in World War 1 and the unveiling of remembrance plaque donated by Cllr Regan outside of the Loughrea Office, Cllr Maher requested that all Councillors attend on the day. Cllr Maher also requested the use of the Loughrea office for the afternoon.

Footpath across from Kilboys Funeral Home

Cllr Maher advised the meeting that the footpath across from Kilboys funeral home is very dangerous. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he will arrange to get a cost estimate for repair of this footpath and the issue of funding can then be looked at.

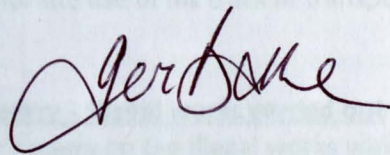
Signage

Cllr Maher advised the meeting that the tourist information sign at the walks have been broken again. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that these signs have been replaced already this year, the issue of replacing these signs will have to be looked at.

Mount Pleasant and Garrybreeda Cemeteries

Cllr. Maher thanked Cllr Regan and Cllr G. Burke for their assistance in the cleanup of Mount Pleasant Garrybreeda Cemeteries, it was proposed by Cllr G. Burke, seconded by Cllr Nix that letters be sent to both committees acknowledging their work in keeping the graveyards in such good condition. Mayor Bane advised the meeting that during her time as mayor she hopes to acknowledge the work of all the different volunteers in Loughrea, including the cemetery committees.

This concluded the business of the meeting



12/11/12

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 10th September, 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Larhair:

Baill:

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

Difigh:

Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Mr. L. Hughes, A/Town Clerk

Apologies:

Cllr. G. Burke
Cllr. M. Gunter-Nix
Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9TH July, 2012.

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

Matters Arising

Tidy Towns

Mayor Bane congratulated the Tidy Towns on their success in the Tidy Towns competition this year, and their huge achievement whereby they achieved 6 points more than in 2011, going from 234 marks in 2011 to 240 marks this year.

Mayor Bane also congratulated Una Daly on her achievement on being one of thirteen Supervalu Tidy Towns Heroes for 2012. Mayor Bane proposed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Una Daly from Loughrea Town Council, seconded by Cllr. Maher. Cllr. Morgan also complimented Una Daly on her achievement. Cllr. Morgan asked that a letter of congratulations also be sent to Loughrea Tidy Towns on their achievement.

The Walks – "Street Feast"

Cllrs. Maher, Morgan, Curley, Hynes complimented Mayor Bane on her initiative in organising the "Street Feast" event in the walks, and the huge effort she put into organising the event.

Mayor Bane thanked everyone who contributed to the event and thanked Cllr. Regan for his financial support and for the use of his truck in transporting chairs to the walks.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery - Illegal works carried out

In reply to Cllr. Maher's query on the illegal works which took place in the cemetery, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting he has sought an update from the Environment Department and he will follow up on the report which he has sent to the Environment Section of Galway County Council.

Town Hall

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that the Town Hall committee has been put in place, the appointment of a consultant architect will be the next stage. Cllr's

expressed interest that Loughrea Town Council members should be represented on the committee which they will bring to the attention of Mr. Cullen at the next meeting.

Photographs

Cllr. Maher asked that photographs of Loughrea Town Council Members taken over the last two years with the County Manager when she attended meetings be framed and put on the wall in Council Chamber. Ms. Hughes to investigate and arrange to have photographs framed.

Invitation to Meeting

Cllr's agreed to discuss the invitation of County Manager to Loughrea Town Council meeting in October and agree agenda for the proposed meeting.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Tipperary Remembrance Trust – Conference weekend 29th & 30th September, 2012

Letter from Monaghan Town Council – July 2012 Notices of Motion adopted.

Letter and Invitation – County Galway Culture night 21st September, 2012

Letter from Association of Irish Festival Events on the Annual Conference – 8th & 9th November, 2012.

Letter Rattoo Heritage Society - Agenda Kerry Autumn Environmental, Cultural and Heritage Conference and training Seminar for Elected members – 19th to 22nd September, 2012

Letter Greystones Town Council – Autumn Seminar 2012 – 28th to 30th September, 2012.

3. (1) Notice of Motion – Cllr Norman Morgan

I will propose:

(a) "That the area around the lakeside seat in the larger Corry's Field Park be tarmacked" **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Seconded Mayor Bane**

In reply to Cllr Morgan confirming the exact location of the seat in question, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that Loughrea lake is designated as an SAC, NHA & SPA, and approval will have to be sought from the National Parks and Wildlife Service prior to any works taking place. For the next meeting approval will be sought from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and costings will be prepared for:

Option 1 – Lay tarmacadam on the footway to and around the seating bench

Option 2 - Relocating the seating bench

funding for the works can then be agreed.

(b) "That an appeal be made to the people of Loughrea to supply the names of the Letter Bandits who are removing letters from names over business premises in our town" **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Not Seconded**

(c) "That persons convicted in a court of law of having done damage to another persons or company property be required to pay the full cost of replacing or repairing the damaged object or objects, and in the case of personal injury, that all medical expenses of the injured person be paid for by the convicted person" **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Not Seconded**

4. Any Other Business

All Ireland Tickets

Cllr Curley thanked Ms. Hughes for arranging tickets for the All-Ireland final and asked that an application be made for tickets for the All-Ireland final replay.

Loughrea Triathlon

Cllr Maher asked that a letter complementing the organising group for the recent triathlon be sent, which was a huge success, there were 775 entrants.

Plaque for World War One

Cllr Maher proposed that a presentation be held in Loughrea Town Council for the Furey family who lost 7 sons in World War 1, that he hopes that a plaque can be placed outside Loughrea Town Council Office beside the plaque for the Connacht Rangers.

Sweeping on Main Street

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan advised that he will continue to work with Loughrea Tidy Towns to ensure that every effort is made to ensure any litter sweep on to the streets by the Loughrea Tidy Towns is swept up.

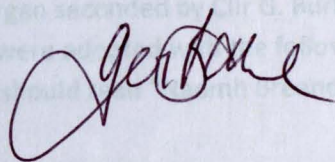
Signage

Cllr. Regan raised the issue of illegal signage on the Roundabout at Cosmona. Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that there is an ongoing problem with illegal signage; he advised that the Community Wardens patrol the area regularly and remove illegal signs. Mr. Mulryan clarified that if signage is in private property is a planning enforcement issue.

Darren Duane

Mayor Bane proposed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Darren Duane on his achievement on completing a round Ireland run/cycle in aid of the Marie Keating foundation, seconded by Cllr. Morgan.

This concluded the business of the meeting



Galway County Council Archives

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 9th July, 2012
in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea

Larhair:

Baill:

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

Diffigh:

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

Apologies:

Cllr. S. Burke

1. **Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th June, 2012.**

On the proposal of Cllr Morgan seconded by Cllr G. Burke the minutes of the monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted with the following amendment in relation to the Clean up of Corry's field, it should read "Naomh Breandan Credit Union in conjunction with Loughrea Tidy Towns"

Matters Arising

Clean up of Corry's field

Cllr Nix advised the meeting of the huge amount of work which was carried out at Corry's field on the weekend of 30th June & 1st July, 2012, huge credit is due to Naomh Breandan Credit Union for their support and funding, and to the Anglers Association for their work also. It was agreed to write letters acknowledging the work and support of all the parties involved, including Loughrea Tidy Towns.

2. **Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 11th June, 2012.**

On the proposal of Cllr Maher seconded by Cllr Regan the minutes of the Annual General meeting of Loughrea Town Council were adopted.

3. **Correspondence**

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter dated 14th June, 2012 from Mayo County Council – Motion adopted by Mayo County Council.

Programme from L.A.M.A. – Autumn Seminar 28th & 29th September, 2012 in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

Letter and Brochure from AMAI – Centenary Annual Conference 13th to 15th September, 2012, in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

Letter from Greystones Town Council – Seminar "Local Democracy – Myth or Reality" 28th to 30th September, 2012, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.

4. (1) **Notice of Motion – Cllr Norman Morgan**

I will propose:

(a) "that notices be erected in Corry's Fields Park that Persons whose dogs take stones from the bed of the lake must return those stones to the lake and not leave them on the grass, as such stones damage grass cutting machines" **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Not Seconded.**

(b) " that a recommendation be sent to the Minister for Local Government – that Planning Permission not be granted to any person to build on some other person's property without the permission, in writing, of the legal owner" **Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Not Seconded.**

(c) "That a recommendation be sent to the Minister for Justice that persons who have been found guilty of a serious crime in a Court of Law, and have spent six months or more in prison be disqualified from seeking election in the National and Local Government elections"
Proposed Cllr. Morgan, Not Seconded

5. Annual Financial Statement

Mr. Cullen briefed the meeting on the Annual Financial Statement for Loughrea Town Council. The Annual Financial Statement as circulated was then proposed by Cllr Morgan, Seconded by Cllr Curley.

6. Any Other Business

Mount Pleasant Cemetery

Cllr Maher raised the issue of concrete footpaths being installed to the front of Grave Plots at Mount Pleasant Cemetery whereby grave owners are taking extra space, which is causing annoyance to the graveyard committee.

Mayor Bane circulated photographs showing the issue in question.

Cllr Regan advised the meeting that he reported this matter to Mr. Mulryan, Town Engineer.

In reply Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he will be reporting this matter to the Environment Department in Galway County Council and stress the urgency of this matter.

Mr. Cullen advised that the issue of access to the cemetery may have to be looked at again, he advised that the Environment Department of Galway County Council deals with access and opening times.

Cllr Hynes complimented Cllr Maher for all his work in cutting the grass and also complimented Cllr Regan for all his work in the Cemetery.

Cllr Nix complimented the volunteer committee who look after the cemetery in Garrybredda.

Stoney Brennan Plaque

In reply to Cllr Maher, Cllr Regan advised that the Stoney Brennan Plaque will be in place at the Bookmakers before the next meeting.

Replacement of Pump at Westbridge

In reply to Cllr Nix's request to have the pump which was located outside Morrissey's house at the Westbridge located in the flower bed across the road, Mr. Mulryan advised that he would investigate the matter.

The Walks

Mayor Bane proposed a motion to the meeting that an event called "Street Feast" be held in the Walks on Sunday 26th August, 2012 under the umbrella of Loughrea Town Council from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. Mayor Bane circulated a flyer to the meeting outlining the event.

Cllr. Curley seconded the motion.

Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that Loughrea Town Council will make a contribution to the funding of the event.

Cllrs Hynes, Nix, Maher, Regan complimented Mayor Bane on her great initiative and wished her well and offered their assistance.

Congratulations

Cllr Nix complimented the Galway Senior Hurling Team on their win over Kilkenny in the Leinster final.

Invitation to Meeting

Mayor Bane suggested to the meeting that the County Manager be invited to attend a meeting of Loughrea Town Council, and also the 4 TD's and Senator in the area, following discussion it was agreed that an agenda for the meetings will be discussed at the September meeting of Loughrea Town Council.

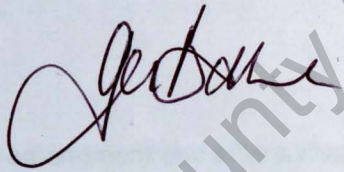
Cllr Nix advised the meeting that there has been a new CEO appointed to the IDA in Galway and she suggested to the meeting that the new CEO be invited to address a meeting of Loughrea Town Council.

Town Hall

Mr. Cullen advised the meeting that he has set up a small working group to work on the Town Hall Project, the working group is currently made up of himself, Mr. Mulryan, Ms. Hughes, and he will involve others with the appropriate expertise as necessary.

Mr. Cullen advised that he hopes to get a cost estimate proposal for works together over the Summer.

This concluded the business of the meeting



Galway County Council Archives

Minute of proceeding of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 11th June, 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Baill: 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

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 14th May, 2012.

In relation to the discussion on Loughrea Swimming Pool that had taken place at the monthly meeting on 14th May, 2012, It was proposed by Cllr Regan, seconded by Cllr Hynes that the minutes circulated with the agenda be amended as follows;

"Cllr Regan stated that a meeting had taken place regarding the Loughrea swimming pool attended by a local developer, Cllr G Burke as chair of the Loughrea swimming pool committee, Mayor of County Galway Cllr M Maher and Minister C Cannon and that a subsequent meeting occurred concerning an all-weather pitch"

The amendment was agreed.

Cllr G Burke requested a further amendment and after a discussion the following was proposed;

"Cllr Burke asked that it be recorded that he was not aware of the withdrawal of the grant for the swimming pool. Cllr. M Maher disputed Cllr Burke's recollection."

This amendment was proposed by Cllr S Burke, seconded by Cllr M Nix and agreed.

Matters Arising

Cllr's M. Maher, P. Hynes, M. Nix, J. Curley complimented and thanked Mr. Mulryan on all the work which has been carried out in Loughrea Town, including repair of the Diving Board at the Long Point, and work carried out at Fitz's corner.

With regard to concerns about the emptying of certain bins at weekend it was suggested that the tidy towns may be in a position to assist and it was agreed to look in to this.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter dated 15th May, 2012 from Irish Public Bodies – Terms of Reference and Nominations and Election Procedures Document - Members Consultative Forum,

Letter from L.A.M.A. Preliminary Notice – Autumn Seminar 28th & 29th September, 2012

Letter from East Galway Digital Switchover Champion – Information on Digital Switchover

3. (1). Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan

I will propose:

(a) "that a Stop Sign removed from its pole at the junction of Ash Lawn and Athenry Road be reinstated" Seconded by Cllr. S. Burke.

Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that Ash Lawn Estate is not in charge of Galway County Council, he will make contact with the Contractor who carried out works to investigate the matter.

(b) "that the additional Street light be provided on the ESB pole at the junction of Cross Street with the entrance to St. Brendan's Boys Primary School and Mount Pleasant Estate" Seconded by Cllr. G. Burke.

Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that Galway County Council have no allocations for lighting over the last two years, budgets are allocated to operations of lighting only.

Cllr. Morgan asked that when monies are available that this item be looked at again.

(c) "that the relevant Government Department, who have laid down rules regarding the cutting of bushes, be requested to reconsider where such bushes are in public parks inside town and city boundaries". Seconded by Cllr. Bane.

4. **Any Other Business**

Works carried out at Main Street Car Park

In reply to Cllr. Regan, Mr. Mulryan advised meeting that the bin in Main Street Car park at the side of Wearer's will be replaced this week, the lights are not been replaced.

Abbey Street

In reply to Cllr S Burke, Mr. Mulryan advised the meeting that he was not aware of any further works being carried out on Abbey Street later this year as regards the installation of Gas Pipes.

Blue Flag

Cllr M Nix advised the meeting that a Blue Flag has been awarded for Loughrea Lake for the 15th year in 2012.

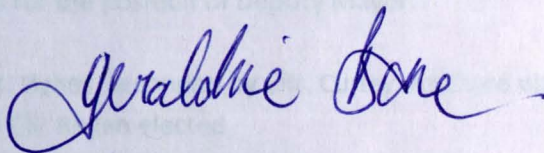
Tidy Town Adjudication

Cllr M Nix advised the meeting the adjudication of the Tidy Towns will be taking place from now until the end of June.

Clean up of Corry's field

Cllr G Burke advised the meeting that Naomh Brendan Credit Union in conjunction with Loughrea Town Council are having a cleanup of Corry's field on the last Saturday in June, the theme is "find the kerb".

This concluded the business of the meeting



Minute of proceedings of Annual Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on Monday 11th June,
2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Larhair:

Baill:

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

Oifigigh:

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

Mayor Curley welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed his thanks to the Town Councillors, Deputy Mayor G. Bane, Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services, Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer for all their assistance during his term as mayor.

Cllrs. Maher, Hynes, Morgan, Bane, Regan, Nix, G. Burke, S. Burke thanked Mayor Curley for the efficient manner and balanced way he dealt with the business of meetings throughout the year, and the fairness he showed to all members. Mr. Cullen also thanked Mayor Maher.

1. Election of Mayor for the year 2012/2013

Cllr. Bane was proposed by Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. G. Burke.

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

Mayor Bane thanked all the Town Councillors for their support, she thanked Mr. Mulryan and Mr. Cullen also. She said she was looking forward to the year ahead as mayor. She went on to pay tribute to her parents Sean and Angela, who have always supported her. She hopes to acknowledge the work of Volunteers in Loughrea Town throughout the year.

The Town Councillors and Mr. Cullen congratulated Mayor Bane and wished her well for the year ahead.

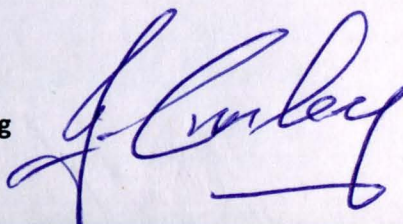
2. Election of Deputy Mayor for the year 2012/2013

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

Cllr. Regan was proposed by Cllr. Hynes, seconded by Cllr. Curley. As there was no other nomination the Mayor declared Cllr. Regan elected.

Cllr. Regan thanked his proposer and seconder.

This concluded the business of the meeting



Minute of proceeding of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 14th May 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street Loughrea.

I Lathair:

Mayor: Cllr G Bane (Deputy Mayor)

Members: Cllrs. M Nix, P Hynes, J Regan, S Burke, N Morgan, G Burke, M Maher

Officials: E Mulryan Town Engineer, J Cullen Director of Services.

Apologies: Mayor J Curley

1. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 12th March 2012

On the proposal of Cllr. Morgan seconded by Cllr G Burke the minutes of the monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 16th April 2012 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

Matters arising:

Hoarding at Fitz's corner:

Cllr Bane raised the issue of the hoarding at Fitz's corner and that it needed attention before the adjudication for the Tidy Towns in June. Mr. Mulryan said that if confirmation of funding under the smarter travel initiative or the proposed sponsorship scheme is not received shortly, then the council will tidy it up on an interim basis.

Volvo Ocean Yacht Race:

Cllr Nix asked if there had been a response to the council's invitation of hospitality for the event. Mr. Cullen advised that he would check with this out.

Footpaths:

Mr. Mulryan advised that the footpath repairs were due to start in the next week.

Diving Board at the Long Point:

Mr Mulryan said that quotations had been received for repairs to the diving board and that work would commence shortly.

Clean up Volunteers:

Cllr Nix thanked all who had participated in the recent clean up.

2. To Fix date for Annual Meeting:

It was proposed by Cllr Morgan, seconded by Cllr G Burke and agreed that the Annual meeting be held on Monday 11th June. It was agreed that as there is a JPC meeting at 6.30 that evening that the annual meeting would be held immediately after the JPC meeting and that the monthly meeting would be held immediately after the annual meeting. It was suggested that a meeting could take place on the same night to consider the draft Loughrea Town Plan that had just been placed on public display.

3. Correspondence:

The following correspondence was noted;

Correspondence dated 20th March 2012 from National Asset Management Agency.

Correspondence dated 13th March 2012 from Newry and Mourne District Council regarding Nuclear Free Local Authorities All Ireland Forum.

Correspondence dated 13th March 2012 from Chambers Ireland regarding Excellence in Local Government Awards 2012.

Correspondence from Killarney Town Council regarding ECAD 19th Mayors Conference on European Cities Against Drugs.

4. Any Other Business:

Cllr Regan referred to a letter from County Secretary to Cllr Hynes and letters attached, one dated 16th January 2012 from Dept. Transport Tourism and Sport and a reply to it dated 11th April 2012 from Eugene Cummins Director of services regarding Loughrea Swimming pool. Cllr Hynes read the correspondence. At the conclusion of the discussion which focussed on whether the swimming pool committee members were or were not aware of the correspondence, Mr. Cullen clarified that the actual fact was that there was no viable project before Galway County Council that could be submitted to the Dept in response to its letter.

Cllr G Burke asked if there were proposals to upgrade Bride Street. Mr. Mulryan advised that there is no funding for any major works other than normal repairs.

Mr. Cullen advised that he was now looking again at the Town Hall building to see if any proposal could be put together to have it upgraded He said this had been a divisive issue in the past but what he wanted to look into now was simply to bring it to a stage where it could be occupied. He said he would keep the Town Council advised if progress was being made. This was supported by the Town Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



Minute of proceeding of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 16th April 2012 in the County Council Offices Barrack Street Loughrea.

I Lathair:

Mayor: Cllr J Curley

Members: Cllrs. M Nix, P Hynes, J Regan, S Burke, N Morgan, G Burke, G Bane, M Maher

Officials: E Mulryan Town Engineer, J Cullen Director of Services.

1. Presentation by Loughrea Tennis Club

Mr. Billy O Reilly and Ms. Julie Casey attended the meeting on behalf of Loughrea Tennis Club. Mr. O Reilly stated that it had been 3 years since a presentation had been made to the Town Council about the club and outlined the developments that had taken place since then. He went on to give a presentation of the planned development over the next 3 to 5 years and stated that a planning application will soon be lodged. The members welcomed the proposals and wished every success to the club. It was agreed to issue a letter of support.

2. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 12th March 2012

On the proposal of Cllr. Maher seconded by Cllr Regan the minutes of the monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were approved and signed by the Mayor.

Matters arising:

Attendance at March Monthly Meeting:

Cllr. Morgan questioned the accuracy of the attendance record for the monthly meeting held on the 12th March 2012 and stated that Cllr. Hynes had not been in attendance. Cllr Hynes clarified that he had attended but that as the meeting had started early, it was finishing when he arrived.

Volvo Ocean Yacht Race.

Cllr Nix asked if there had been a response to the council's invitation of hospitality for the event. Mr. Cullen advised that no reply had been received as of yet.

Hoarding at Fitz's corner:

Cllr Bane sought clarification on what was proposed at this location. Mr. Mulryan said that the treatment of the remaining area at this location was something that would have to be considered and might be something for inclusion in some form of sponsorship proposal.

Footpaths:

Mr. Mulryan confirmed that the amount needed to repair the three priority footpath locations had now been donated by the Loughrea area councillors and that work would start shortly.

Saint Patrick's Day Parade:

Cllr Nix thanked all who had participated in the parade.

3. Correspondence:

The following correspondence was noted;

Correspondence dated 20th March 2012 from National Asset Management Agency.

Correspondence dated 13th March 2012 from Newry and Mourne District Council regarding Nuclear Free Local Authorities All Ireland Forum.

Correspondence dated 13th March 2012 from Chambers Ireland regarding Excellence in Local Government Awards 2012.

Correspondence from Killarney Town Council regarding ECAD 19th Mayors Conference on European Cities Against Drugs..

4. Consideration of Traffic Management Issues:

Mr. Mulryan circulated drawings setting out proposals for the traffic flow from Bride Street down Pigott's Street to Barrack Street and from Barrack Street up Church Street towards Main Street. He stated that the Gardai had confirmed their support for the proposals which would greatly enhance traffic movement and safety. He advised that the proposals could only be implemented when funding became available but that it was important to have them ready. On the proposal of Cllr Maher, seconded by Cllr S Burke the proposals were unanimously agreed.

5. Any Other Business:

Cllr Morgan referred to a newspaper article about a planning permission on the East side of the town. It was noted that this was under appeal to An Bord Pleanala.

Cllr Bane asked if more prominent signage advising of gate closing times could be put up at the Long Point. Mr. Mulryan said he would review the current signage.

Cllr Bane suggested that a possible historical association with Patrick Sarsfield and Boys School Lane be looked in to and if it was the case that it be commemorated. Cllr Nix said she will ask the history project to investigate and Cllr Regan offered to provide a suitable plaque.

The Mayor referred to the BIG Spring Clean that would take place on 21st and 22nd April 2012 and called for volunteers.

Cllr G Burke raised the condition of the road at Abbey Street and was advised by Mr. Mulryan that water conservation works were scheduled to take place and resurfacing would be examined in that context.

Cllr G Burke asked if there had been re-sequencing on the traffic lights at West Bridge. Mr. Mulryan said he would look in to this.

Cllr Maher asked if grass cuttings could be taken away by the council where volunteers had cut some open areas. Mr. Mulryan said this would be arranged for the specific projects.

Cllr Maher enquired about the possibility of a cycle lane on Bohereencom but was advised that such a proposal could only be looked at as part of a comprehensive plan.

Cllr S Burke enquired about the diving boards at the Long Point. Mr. Mulryan stated that these were being examined and costings prepared.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Footpath repairs;

Cllr Regan enquired if there had been any proposals for the installation of footpaths from the Loughrea electoral area of notice of motion towards the repair of a number of stretches of footpaths in Loughrea town.

Mr. Mulryan advised that to date 2.5km had been laid and he was happy for the further allocations would be forthcoming from the council. He said that a location had been identified as most in need of repair and the cost was estimated at €5,000.

Moore St/ Bride St junction

Cllr Regan referred to the difficulty with timing movements for large vehicles at the Moore St/Bride St junction.

Mr. Mulryan advised that it was difficult to address this in isolation and that it needed to be looked at in the context of an overall traffic management plan. He said that consultants had been appointed to look at traffic management and proposals would be brought forward at a later stage.

Hoarding at Fitz's corner;

Cllr Nix enquired if the hoarding at Fitz's corner was likely to be removed in the near future.

Minute of proceeding of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 12th March 2012 in the County Council offices Barrack Street Loughrea.

I lathair:

Mayor: Cllr J Curley

Members: Cllrs. M Nix, P Hynes, J Regan, S Burke, N Morgan

Officials: E Mulryan Town Engineer, J Cullen Director of Services.

Apologies: Cllrs. M Maher, G Bane, G Burke.

1. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on

On the proposal of Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr Morgan the minutes of the monthly meeting of Loughrea Town Council were approved and signed by the Mayor.

Matters arising:

Footpath repairs;

Cllr Regan enquired if there had been any progress in the allocation by county councillors from the Loughrea electoral area of notice of motion monies towards the repair of a number of stretches of footpaths in Loughrea town.

Mr. Mulryan advised that to date €2,900 had been committed and he was hopeful that further allocations would be forthcoming from the notice of motion monies. He said that 3 locations had been identified as most in need of repair and the cost was estimated at €6,000.

Moore St/ Bride St junction;

Cllr Regan referred to the difficulty with turning movements for large vehicles at the Moore St./Bride St. junction.

Mr. Mulryan advised that it was difficult to address this in isolation and that it needed to be looked at in the context of an overall traffic management plan. He said that consultants had been appointed to look at traffic management and proposals would be brought forward at a later stage.

Hoarding at Fitz's corner;

Cllr Nix enquired if the hoarding at Fitz's corner was likely to be removed in the near future.

Mr. Mulryan said that the treatment of the remaining area at this location was something that would have to be considered and might be something for inclusion in some form of sponsorship proposal.

2. Correspondence:

The following correspondence was noted;

Correspondence dated 24th Feb 2012 from Kerry County Council relating to Community Employment Schemes.

Correspondence dated 27th Feb.2012 from Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht regarding restrictions on hedgerow cutting.

Details of LAMA spring seminar to be held on 13th & 14th April in the Tower Hotel Waterford on the Role of Local Authorities on Enabling Economic Development and Local Government Reform.

Details of the SEAI Energy Show to take place 28th & 29th March in the RDS Main Hall Dublin.

3. Any Other Business:

St. Patrick's Day Parade;

The Mayor read out a letter of invitation from the organising committee of the St. Patrick's Day parade committee inviting the Town Council to the parade.

Volvo Ocean Yacht Race:

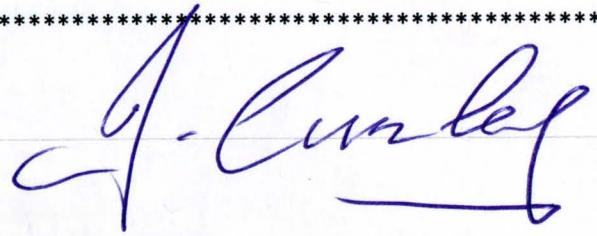
Cllr Nix referred to a reference by Mr Cullen at an earlier meeting to possible opportunities for county towns to become associated with the forthcoming Ocean Yacht Race due to finish in Galway city in the summer and asked if there was any further detail.

Mr. Cullen stated that the Ocean Yacht Race was likely to be one of the biggest tourism events in 2012. It is expected that it will be significantly bigger than 3 years ago because it is the finish of the race rather than a stop over. Already most city and some county hotels are already fully booked. He said it might be worthwhile for Loughrea to adopt a race team or find some way to associate itself with the event, possibly getting some publicity or international coverage for the town. Perhaps some local clubs could organise some sports events such as golf or water based sport to coincide with the arrival of the teams. He said even if one of the teams were asked to visit the town to be received by the mayor and the council it might attract some interest.

It was agreed that the Yacht race organising committee be written to advising that the Town Council would be interested in being associated with the event

This concluded the business of the meeting.

3. (1). Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan



**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13th
FEBRUARY 2012 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES.**

Chair:

Baill:

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

Officers:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. M. Gilchrist, Town Clerk

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th January 2012.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th January 2012 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. N. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. M. Maher.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter dated 7th February 2012 from Dept. Environment, Community & Local Government – future of Town Councils

Letter from Office of the Secretary General to the President – acknowledgement of letter of congratulations

Notice of Motion - Clones Town Council: "that this Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection to clarify her position on the continuation of the Community Employment Scheme. – On the proposal of G. Burke seconded by Cllr. Hynes it was agreed to support this motion.

Notice of Motion – Monaghan Town Council: "that this Council calls on the FG/Labour Government to reverse immediately the cuts in the Home Insulation Grants in the interests of homeowners and the retention of jobs in the construction industry. On the proposal of Cllr. G. Burke seconded by Cllr. Regan it was agreed to support this motion.

Letter from L.A.M.A. – Spring Seminar 13th & 14th April 2012.

Letter from Commission for Energy Regulation – Gas installation safety measures

Greystones Town Council - Seminar "Local Democracy – Myth or Reality" – 28th to 30th September 2012.

Colmcille Heritage Trust – Winter School Conference 24th to 26th February 2012.

Kerry County Council – Seminar – "Building Community Preparedness and Resilience" 9th March 2012.

Dundalk Chamber – Conference – "What it takes to succeed in the Tourism Sector" 28th March 2012.

3. (1). Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan

I will propose:

(a) that Galway County Council be requested to remove the blockage of the rain-water drain grill beside the entrance gate to the Walks at Railway Road. This grill was installed when the County Council replaced the damaged pipes under the public road to the river beside O'Dea's Hotel bridge. – **Seconded by Cllr. Bane.**

Mr. Mulryan stated that the drain has now been cleared.

(b) that a recommendation be made to Galway County Council and the Board of Works that the ivy and bushes on Athenry Town Wall be removed as soon as possible; as Athenry has no Town Moat, and Loughrea has no Town Wall, these features complement each other, especially as they are only 11 miles apart. – **Motion not seconded.**

(c) that Loughrea Town Council agree that for the remainder of the present term, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be elected in the order of election by the voters, i.e.: June, 2012: Mayor: Cllr. Norman Morgan; Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Sylvia Burke; June, 2013: Mayor: Cllr. Geraldine Bane; Deputy Mayor: Cllr. James Regan. – **Motion not seconded.**

3. (2) Notice of Motion – Cllr. James Curley

The economic situation is currently difficult for everyone particularly for the business people of Loughrea - up to seven shops have closed since Christmas. In order to encourage people to shop in Loughrea on Saturday mornings and support local business I propose:

That Galway County Council allow free parking on Saturday Mornings up until 12.00 in all car parks in Loughrea. If this motion is acceptable the concession of free parking until 12.00 should remain in place for a minimum of three months – any shorter time span would not allow a proper assessment of its value to the business community – **Seconded by Cllr. J. Regan.**

Mr. Mulryan stated that the matter was raised with the Roads & Transportation Section and as Loughrea already has one car park operating free on Saturdays (Station Road) it is not envisaged to provide further free parking due to the potential loss of income to the Council. Signage will be increased to highlight the existing free parking concession.

3. (3) Notices of Motion – Cllr. James Regan

I will propose:

(a) That Church Street and Piggot Street will be made one-way Streets but funerals will be allowed to go the way they have gone before – **Seconded by Cllr. Hynes.**

Mr. Mulryan stated that the Council is seeking fee proposals from consultants to prepare an overall design in this regard and any new one-way system will require funding. The new proposed design will be brought before the Members. It was agreed to await design proposals.

(b) To call on Galway County Council to stop the footpaths in our town being used as public toilets by dogs – **Seconded by Cllr. Morgan.**

Mr. Mulryan stated signage will be improved and the option of fines for un-leashed dogs will be taken up with the Environment Section.

(c) That Galway County Council have Litter Bin collection in our town Monday to Friday –
Seconded by Cllr. Curley.

Mr. Mulryan stated that a revised roster has been put in place. Problem bins identified at a meeting with the Tidy Towns Committee will be emptied on Fridays.

4. Any Other Business

Hoarding at Fitzzy's Corner

In reply to Cllr. Bane Mr. Mulryan stated the Council will evaluate the best option within the available funding.

Railing at Footpath on Cross Street

In reply to Cllr. Bane Mr. Mulryan stated the contractors are to address the matter.

Junction at Moore Street and Bride Street

Cllr. Regan stated he has been approached by members of the farming community who find they have to mount the kerb on route to the mart with larger vehicles and trailers. Mr. Mulryan stated the matter will be investigated.

Swimming Pool Site

In reply to Cllr. Hynes Mr. Mulryan stated the Corporate Services Unit have been in contact with the developer and some works have been carried out.

Footpaths

Cllr. Maher stated that some footpaths in the town require urgent attention. It was proposed by Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr. G. Burke that NOM funding be sought from the Members of the Loughrea Electoral Area of the Council.

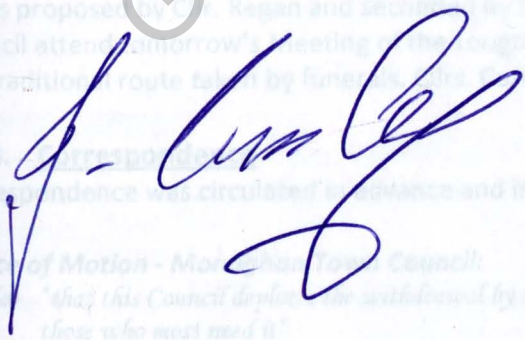
Bicycle Trail

In reply to Cllr. Nix Mr. Mulryan stated the matter has been referred to the Sports Partnership Co-ordinator.

Tributes

Members and Mr. Cullen paid tributes to Ms. Gilchrist on the occasion of her forthcoming retirement and wished her well for the future.

This concluded the business of the meeting



Notice of Motion - Motion adopted by the Council:
(a) "that this Council deplores the withdrawal by the Government of the fuel allowance from those who most need it"
(b) "that this Council condemns the proposed cuts in funding for CE Scheme participants" – On the proposal of Cllr. Hynes seconded by Cllr. Morgan it was agreed to support this motion.

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 9th JANUARY 2012 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES.**

I Larhair:

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

Apologies: Cllr. G. Bane
Cllr. G. Burke

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual Budget Meeting held on 12th December, 2011.

Minutes of Annual Budget Meeting held on 12th December 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. N. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. M. Maher.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th December, 2011.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th December 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. N. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. M. Maher.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Gates at Long Point

Mr. Mulryan informed the meeting that approval has been received allowing a private individual to open and close the gates at the long point. Arrangements are in place to commence the arrangement on Monday next.

Funeral Cortege

It was proposed by Cllr. Regan and seconded by Cllr. Curley that a Deputation from Loughrea Town Council attend tomorrow's Meeting of the Loughrea Electoral Area Committee in connection with the traditional route taken by funerals. Cllrs. Curley, Morgan and Regan will attend.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Notice of Motion - Monaghan Town Council:

- (a) *"that this Council deplores the withdrawal by this Government of the 6 week winter fuel allowance from those who most need it"*
- (b) *"that this Council condemns the proposed cuts in funding for CE Scheme participants" – On the proposal of Cllr. Hynes seconded by Cllr. Morgan it was agreed to support this motion.*

- (c) "that this Council, in the interests of members of the public who are finding it difficult to make ends meet at this time, would support and promote a move to accept payments by direct debit spread over 12 months for motor tax with no additional cost to the fixed annual fee"

Letter from Kerry Community & Voluntary Forum: - Building Community Preparedness and Resilience

Rattoo Heritage Society: - 21st Annual Kerry Environmental Conference and Training Seminar

Loughrea Tidy Towns Newsletter

4. Any Other Business

Representation on Galway Rural Development Board

Cllr. Hynes stated that he has not received notification of GRD meetings. Mr Cullen stated that the matter will be checked out with the Community and Enterprise Unit.

Loughrea Tidy Towns

Members and Mr. Cullen congratulated Loughrea Tidy Towns on their achievements during 2011 and wished them well for the coming year. Mr. Cullen stated that the Council will continue to support the Tidy Towns and said a number of potential initiatives will be examined for 2012 including whether the town could attract some activity arising out of the Volvo Ocean Yacht Race. Cllr. Nix acknowledged the support received from County Council staff and said that more volunteers are required. A meeting of Loughrea Chamber of Commerce, Tidy Towns and other groups is scheduled for Wednesday next and the matter will be discussed further following same.

Athenry Road

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan stated that works will re-commence on the Athenry Road next week, weather permitting. The duration of the works including the drainage is expected to take approximately two weeks.

Recreation Facilities

In reply to Cllrs. Maher and Nix, Mr. Mulryan stated that sand will be provided for the children's paddling pool and the sand box at the playground.

Gort Bride

In reply to Cllr. Maher's query on a "clean-up" project at Gort Bride, Mr. Mulryan said he will liaise with Tony McInerney on the matter.

Dumping at Long Point

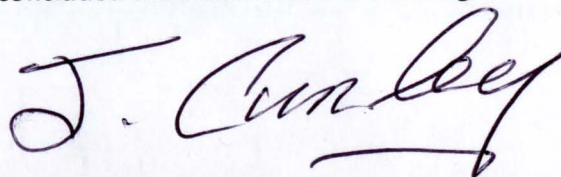
In reply to Cllr. Nix, Mr. Mulryan stated that he will investigate if large items dumped there have been removed.

Historical Publication

Cllr. Morgan presented a 24 page extract from "*The Loughrea Illustrated Journal*" dated 1st July 1861, containing details of appointment of Loughrea Town Commissioners on Saturday 22nd June 1861, to all present.

The Mayor wished all present a Happy & Peaceful 2012.

This concluded the business of the meeting



**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 12th DECEMBER 2011 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES**

Chair:

Baill:

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

Officers:

Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. M. Gilchrist, Town Clerk

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 14th November, 2011.

Minutes of Meeting held on 14th November 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. N. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. M. Maher.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Amendment - Gates at Long Point

It was noted that Cllr. G. Bane rather than Cllr. G. Burke had raised the issue of a volunteer opening and closing the gates at the Long Point at the November Meeting.

Congratulations

Cllr. G. Bane congratulated the County Mayor on the Mayoral Ball held in aid of charity on 10th December 2011.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance and included:

Letter from Office of Attorney General – Statute Law Revision Bill

A.M.A.I. - Spring Seminar – 10th & 11th February in Cavan & Notice of Annual Subscription for 2012

Notice of Motion – Muinebheag Town Council- It was agreed to support this Motion to “call on the Irish Government to introduce legislation that no politician serving or retired, who are drawing a salary from any source, should be entitled to a pension from the state until such time as they are fully retired” on the proposal of Cllr. G. Burke, seconded by Cllr. N. Morgan.

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 12th DECEMBER 2011 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES**

Chair:

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

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

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Matters Arising from Minutes

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Congratulations

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Letter from Waterford Co. Co. – Mental Health Conference – February 2012

Letter from Monaghan Town Council- Notice of Motion adopted by them– “that this Town Council write to the Minister for finance asking him to think again about the proposed increase in VAT and also their plans to increase duty on central heating fuels, petrol and diesel”

Letter from dept of Environment, Community & Local Government – Retirement Schemes

Brochure on Atlantic Conference 2012

3. Nomination of Representative on the Galway County Development Board

Cllr. J. Curley was selected to represent Loughrea Town Council on the Galway County Development Board on the proposal of Cllr. M. Maher and seconded by Cllr. J. Regan.

4. Notice of Motion – Cllr. G. Burke

I will propose:

“That this Council vote to allow Funeral Traffic to follow traditional route i.e. North to South up Moore Street on route to Mount Pleasant Cemetery when necessary”.

The Motion was seconded by Cllr. J. Regan.

Cllr. G. Burke welcomed the works carried out under Smarter Travel but stated he was led to understand the historic tradition regarding funeral corteges on Moore Street would be facilitated. Cllr. J. Regan stated he was of the same understanding until the JPC Meeting earlier and Cllr. P. Hynes stated he received a number of calls on this matter also.

Mr. Mulryan stated that the Galway County Council received significant funding under the Smarter Travel Project to improve safety for pedestrians and children attending the schools in the area and to improve traffic flow at Fitz’s corner. He stated consultants were engaged to examine a number of options and a design was agreed upon. He referred to minutes of a previous meeting of the Town Council and stated that at no time did he say the Gardai would provide assistance for funerals. He stated that if the Council were to reverse the traffic management system in place any further funding under this stream would be lost to the Council.

Mr. Cullen stated that while he can appreciate the Councillors views, it is entirely within the Gardai’s remit to decide whether or not to provide traffic management for funerals and as the Town Council is not a Roads Authority the decision lies with Galway County Council. He said proper traffic management and road safety is paramount and must not be compromised. The objective is to strike a balance between traditions and views and to organise a traffic system.

Following discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Maher that a meeting be arranged with the Mayor, Town Engineer and the Gardai in the coming days.

5. Any Other Business

Long Point

In reply to Cllr. G. Bane, Mr Mulryan stated that he awaits a decision from the Environment Section regarding locking the gates and he will correspond directly with her on receipt of same.

Flooding at Athenry Road

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke Mr. Mulryan stated that Drainage Improvement Works for this general area will progress after Christmas.

Signage at Moore Street

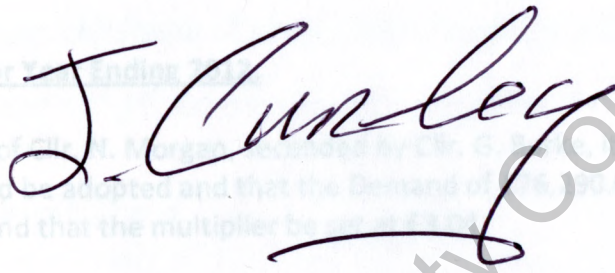
In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Mulryan stated that the Road Signs Manual was upgraded in 2010 and the current "No Entry" sign at Moore Street is correct.

Submission to Minister Hogan regarding status of Town Councils

Cllr. Curley stated that members had met on Tuesday last to discuss a submission to Minister Hogan and it was decided Cllr. Nix would draft a letter. Cllr. Nix read the letter and on the proposal of Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr. G. Burke it was decided to issue same. Cllr. G. Bane thanked Cllr. Nix for the time she put into drafting the letter and stated the Town Council is the most direct link with the Executive of Galway County Council

The Mayor wished all present a Happy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting



Galway County Council Archives

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2011 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2011 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES**

Chair: Cllr. J. Curley – Mayor
Cllr. G. Bane

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

Secretary: Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services

1. Budget for Year Ending 2012.

On the proposal of Cllr. N. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. G. Burke, it was agreed the Budget for 2012 as circulated be adopted and that the Demand of €76,290.00 be served on Galway County Council and that the multiplier be set at €3.04.

This concluded the business of the Annual Budget Meeting.

J. Curley

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2011 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES**

Chair:

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

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Special Meeting held on 17th October, 2011.

Minutes of Meeting held on 17th October 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. Regan.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Swimming Pool

Cllr. G. Burke asked:

- (a) if the Swimming Pool Committee could have a letter from the Council outlining details as discussed at the last Meeting
- (b) has another developer been in contact with the Council within the past month with a view to coming on board instead of Brian Shaughnessy
- (c) has a figure been pledged for a feasibility study

Mr. Cullen stated that the Swimming Pool Committee should seek whatever correspondence they require from the appropriate Director of Services. He stated he is not aware of any new proposals to progress development of a pool but he would not necessarily be aware of same. Funding, if any, for a feasibility study will not be known until the Council sets aside its annual budget. Mr. Cullen stated that it is important that people's expectations do not become heightened un-necessarily and should a new developer come on board the project would be subject to the Public Procurement Competitive Tendering process as before.

Cllr. Hynes stated that the previous feasibility study established a public demand existed. He said an alternative site exists with planning permission for a 25M pool and that there is nothing in writing to indicate the initial grant is "ring fenced".

Cllr. Maher stated he understands from Minister Cannon the funding is available but not long term and provided it is a 25M pool with 8 lanes.

Mr. Cullen again re-iterated the initial grant was allocated for a particular project, subject to rigorous procurement measures and the Members have a responsibility to be realistic and not over-heighten expectations. He agreed to examine the Planning File for the next Meeting.

Hawthorn Hedge at Tennis Club

In reply to Cllr. Morgan Mr. Cullen stated that this is an operational issue which was reported on satisfactorily by the Town Engineer at the last meeting.

Gates at Long Point

Cllr. G. Burke asked would it be acceptable for a volunteer to open and close the gates at the Long Point during the off season period. Mr. Mulryan said a proposal will be forwarded to the Environment Section for consideration.

Athenry Road

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan stated that he has discussed the matter with Road Design and it is hoped to have works completed before the end of the year.

2. Correspondence

Correspondence was circulated in advance of the meeting and included:

Remembrance – Notice of Annual Memorial

Letter from Leixlip Town Council – stating that a motion was adopted “to request Kildare County Council & other Councils in light of the proposal to introduce a residential tax in 2012, that the commercial rates for businesses are reduced significantly (i.e. by 2/3's)

Letter from Ballina Town Council – seeking support for the following motion adopted by them: “that Ballina Town Council call on the Ministers for Social Protection and Environment to co-operate in the introduction of process:

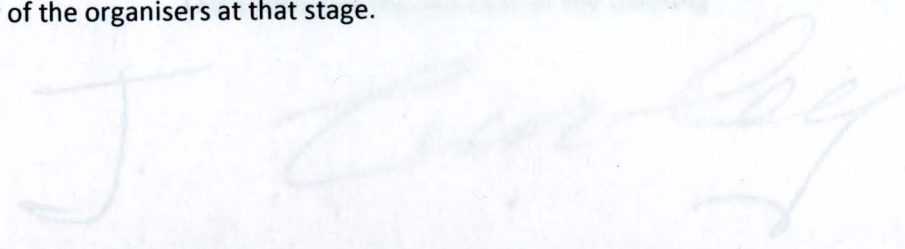
- To ensure that Rental Subsidy is not paid on property that is not registered with the PRTB
- To ensure that Rental Subsidy is not paid on a property where the intended tenant is not on the Local Authority Housing list
- To ensure that property owners on which rental support is sought which are not registered with the PRTB are prosecuted

Brochure from Clare Tourist Council – “Tourism – the potential for Economic Growth”

3. Trees at Garrybreeda Park

Mr. Mulryan circulated details of trees requiring attention and the recommended action required. Members agreed with the proposals in the interest of safety and Cllr. Nix asked that any trees removed be considered for replacement at some stage.

Cllr. Maher asked if the timber from felled trees could be donated to elderly people living locally and it was agreed that this may be done in conjunction with a local charity e.g. the St. Vincent De Paul Association. Mr. Mulryan stated that the timber will have to be removed and it will become the responsibility of the organisers at that stage.



4. Date for Budget Meeting

It was agreed to hold the Budget Meeting for Loughrea Town Council on Monday 12th December 2011 following the JPC Meeting.

5. Any Other Business

Congratulations

Cllr. Morgan proposed a letter of congratulations issue to President Michael D. Higgins. This was seconded by Cllr. Curley and agreed.

Tributes

Cllr. Nix proposed a letter issue to outgoing President – Mary McAleese to thank her for her administration of the Office of President over the past fourteen years. This was seconded by Cllr. Sylvia Burke and agreed.

Presentations

Cllr. Bane said she was approached and asked if it is appropriate to honour the Loughrea Ladies Intermediate Golf Team on their recent achievements. Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. Regan and agreed that Loughrea Town Council will honour persons who represent Ireland i.e. "National Event Achievements" only.

Mayoral Ball

Cllr. Maher asked that as many Members as possible attend the Mayoral Ball on 10th December the proceeds of which will go to two local charities i.e. I.H.C.P.T. - Irish Handicap Children Pilgrimage Trust and St Joseph's Monastery Carmelite Nuns.

Sympathy

Cllr. Hynes proposed a letter of sympathy issue to the representatives of Cllr. Michael Browne who was associated with the A.M.A.I. This was seconded by Cllr. Maher and agreed. It was also agreed to issue a letter of sympathy to the representatives of Ms. Eileen Payne, treasurer of the A.M.A.I. on the proposal of Cllr. Maher.

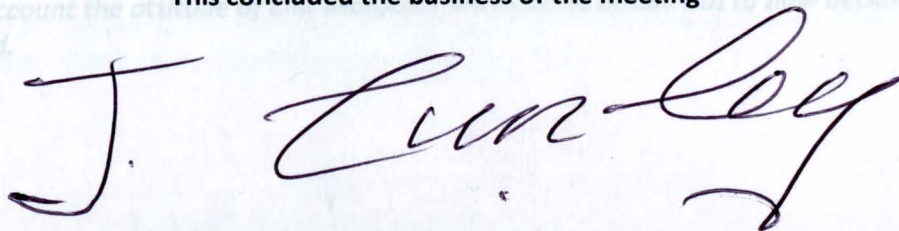
Tidy Towns Art Competition

Cllr. Nix invited all members to the presentation of awards to local school children who participated in the recent Art Competition. The awards take place tomorrow at 5.00 p.m. in the Council Offices.

Memorial

Cllr. Maher stated that the organisers of yesterday's Remembrance Ceremony passed on sincere thanks to Jayne Baker, Enda Mulryan and Council Staff for the floral display at the memorial plaque.

This concluded the business of the meeting



**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2011 AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES.**

I Larhair:

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

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 10th October, 2011.

Minutes of Meeting held on 10th October 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Nix.

Vote of Sympathy

Cllr. Morgan proposed holding a minutes silence in honour of the late Peter Donnellan, brother of Brendan Donnellan who was a member of the Town Commissioners for 25 years. This was seconded by Cllr. Maher.

Matters Arising

Cllr. Bane read the following Statement on behalf of herself and Cllr. Nix. in connection with offensive remarks made by Cllr. Morgan at the AGM.

“At the A.G.M. of Loughrea Town Council in June 2011 remarks were made by Councillor Morgan which we considered personal & offensive. These comments have been a source of distress & upset to ourselves and our families.

Despite numerous interventions by colleagues and Council Officials, no apology has yet been received from Councillor Morgan for these offensive remarks.

In fact, the offensive comments have been added to during recent Town Council meetings.

However, having thought long and hard about the situation, we feel that the greater interest of the business of Loughrea Town Council and the need to hold efficient meetings is paramount. Also, taking into account the attitude of Cllr. Morgan – we have no option but to now declare the matter closed.

We would like to thank all the other six Town Councillors for their support in seeking an apology from Cllr. Morgan, but at this stage (in the absence of that apology) we feel that we have no choice but to put the matter to rest and continue with Town Council Business.

We realise that the next step would have been to have Councillor Morgan forcibly removed from the meeting, but out of regard for the reputation of the Town Council, and the respect for Councillor Morgan's family, we do not wish to pursue this course of action.

We have always shown respect and courtesy to our colleagues on the Town Council and are appalled by the fact that we were not afforded the same respect and courtesy by Councillor Morgan."

Cllr. Maher congratulated Cllr. Bane and Cllr. Nix on how they dealt with the matter.

The Mayor declared that this matter is now formally closed.

2. Appointment of Representative to the Board of Galway Rural Development Company Ltd.

Cllr. Hynes was selected as a Representative on the above Board on the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Maher.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence had been circulated in advance of the Meeting and included:

- **Letter from IPBMI** informing the Town Council of a Dividend Payment of €164.36 due to be received on 14th November, 2011.
- **Letter from Monaghan Town Council** stating they adopted Motions at their September Meeting to:
 - (a) call on the Government to desist from introducing water charges and property taxes
 - (b) call on the Government to further develop the Community Service provision as an alternative to offenders being a burden on the State and the taxpayer and that supervisors be recruited to observe service etc.
- **A.M.A.I. Newsletter**
- **Letter from Killarney Town Council** stating they adopted a motion to write to the Government expressing concern on proposed cuts to fuel and household allowances to pensioners, carers and unemployed.
- **Letter from Kilkee Town Council** stating they adopted a motion to call on the Minister of Education to review the dates Primary and Secondary schools re-open at the end of the summer break.
- **Letter from Kilkee Town Council** stating they adopted a Motion in connection with provision of Carbon Monoxide alarms to the elderly
- **Letter from New Ross Town Council** stating they adopted a Motion condemning the Dept. of Social Protection's proposal to change payment methods and asking recipients be afforded privacy and dignity.
- **Letter from Carrick on Suir Town Council** stating they adopted a Motion to call on the Minister for Social Welfare to provide funding for a National Waiver Scheme for Refuse Collection
- **Report on Planning Implications of The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland Memorandum of Advice on Retail Pharmacy Businesses (February 2011)**

- **Review of International Local Government Efficiency Reforms**
- **Nuclear Free Local Authorities All Ireland Forum – Seminar**
- **R.S.A.** –Chain of responsibility for owners, operators, drivers and all users of road transport services
- **Programme of Events – Social Inclusion Awareness Week 2011**
- **Audit Report for Year Ended 31st December 2010** – Mr. Cullen informed the Members that the Auditors Certificate has been received and there are no issues.
- **Letter to Dept. of Tourism - Loughrea Swimming Pool.**

Mr. Cullen read letter dated 15th September 2011 from Eugene Cummins Director of Services to Mr. John O'Donoghue – Dept. of Tourism. The letter stated it is with great regret that Mr. Brian Shaughnessy confirmed that due to the economic crisis and the limited funds available to the banking sector, the necessary funding to deliver the project in accordance with the Council's requirements is not in place.

The planning permission for the development expired on 6th June 2010. As the developer is no longer in a position to meet the Council's requirements and as the proposed site no longer has the benefit of planning permission the proposal no longer exists. Galway County Council is not in possession of a viable alternative proposal at present.

Cllr. Maher stated he will be seeking provision of a sum of €100,000 in Galway County Council's Budget for a scientific study on the viability of providing a swimming pool and he stated the population of the town has increased according to the 2011 Census to 5057. He also stated he understands from Minister of State Ciaran Cannon that funding is still available. He also recorded his thanks to Brian Shaughnessy for taking the project thus far.

Cllr. Bane also complemented the foresight of the developer and stated that it was frustrating that the political will did not appear to be present when he could have secured the necessary funding. Cllr. Regan stated that he did not think it would be possible to provide a sum of €100,000 for a feasibility study in the current financial climate and asked where the follow-up funding would be sourced. Cllr. Morgan agreed with Cllr. Regan and he stated that money collected for the provision of a swimming pool is lodged and will remain there until a decision is made and proposals for its use are decided.

Cllr. Hynes said this was very bad news. He stated that permission for a pool in the Cross Street area was granted to a private entrepreneur and asked could consideration be given to moving the grant of €1.3M from the failed project to this new site. Cllr Maher stated that a pool must be a minimum of 25 meters with 8 lanes to attract government funding.

Mr. Cullen stated that it would be remiss to heighten expectations on provision of a pool when the reality is entirely different. He said the revenue budget of Galway County Council will not have funds in the region of €100,000 for a feasibility study and he acknowledged the contribution made by Brian Shaughnessy in advancing the project this far. He suggested the Council be asked to "set aside money for a feasibility study" and not put a figure on same.

Cllr. Gabriel Burke and Cllr. Curley also expressed disappointment at the news.

Cllr. Maher's proposal to ask Galway County Council to "set aside money for a feasibility study" was seconded by Cllr. Curley.

4. **(1). Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan proposed:**

(a) that the hawthorn bushes/trees, which are not people friendly, along the footpath at the back of the tennis courts, Gort Road, Loughrea, be removed, as they can be a danger to adults and especially children's eyes.

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Curley.

Mr. Mulryan stated that this is an established native hedge species and he would not be seeking it's removal. He stated any risk will be substantially removed by having it cut back and adequately maintained.

Mr. Cullen stated that funds are not available to replace the hedge and the Council will manage the risk and while he accepts the Motion the Council will not be able to comply with it.

(b) that the bushes/trees by the north-south footpath on the town side of the drain in Corry's Field be removed, including roots; as they are an inconvenience to pedestrians, and do not allow for proper maintenance of the drain.

This motion was not seconded.

(c) that Galway County Council be requested to repaint all the dirty, rusted, Town Sign Posts in Loughrea, together with straightening the numerous bent sign posts.

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Burke.

In relation to Motion (c) Cllr. Nix stated that the Tidy Towns Committee had discussions with the Town Engineer and a Programme of works is being put in place.

4. Any Other Business

Drain at Corry's Field

In reply to Cllr. Bane Mr. Mulryan stated that the drain referred to, forms part of the drainage works at the N66 – Gort Road and is not situated in a Special Area of Conservation.

Gates at Long Point

In reply to Cllr. Bane Mr. Mulryan stated that a budget was allocated to cover the cost involved in opening and closing the gates at the Long Point during the summer season and in conjunction with the Blue Flag. There is no budget available to continue this arrangement at this point.

Works at Mount Carmel

In reply to Cllr. Bane Mr. Mulryan stated works at the Mount Carmel Road junction are designed to reduce HGV's using Mount Carmel as a short cut to the motorway and also to help pedestrians crossing.

In reply to Cllr. Gabriel Burke Mr. Mulryan stated that it is proposed to put a horizontal deflection with pinch-point at Gallows Hill. Cllrs. Gabriel Burke and J. Regan expressed dissatisfaction with the height of two of speed ramps at Mount Carmel. Mr. Mulryan stated that works are part of the Smarter Travel Scheme, the ramps are in accordance with guidelines, the location is still a live work site and advance warning signs will be put in place.

Cllr. Morgan stated that had a slip-road been provided at Mount Carmel Road junction it would alleviate traffic problems on the Athenry Road at busy periods.

In reply to Cllr. Nix, Mr. Mulryan stated there are no proposals for a one-way system at Mount Carmel Crescent/Abbey Terrace at present.

Mr. Cullen stated that the engineers have to carry out roadworks under legal and statutory liability and personal accountability and responsibility.

Main Street

In reply to Cllr. Regan Mr. Mulryan stated that a traffic count would be required to decide if traffic calming measures are required on Main Street and if so a cost analysis would be carried out.

In reply to Cllr. Gabriel Burke, he stated that providing a different colour surface on bus bays will be examined but this is not the best time of year to carry out such works.

Amenity Areas

Cllr. Morgan welcomed the sculpture recently erected at the Monearmore roundabout. Cllr. Maher thanked the technical staff and McNerney's Super Value for this joint initiative. Cllr. Maher said he expects further funding of €15,600 towards an outdoor gym concept which may be located at the Long Point area or Corry's Field.

Mr. Mulryan stated an application has been made under the Sports Capital Grant to upgrade facilities at the Long Point and the Tennis Club.

Footpaths

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan stated that footpaths at Abbey Terrace and The Hill can be looked at but funding will have to be sourced in advance of any necessary repairs.

Abbey Lane

In reply to Cllr. Gabriel Burke, Mr. Mulryan stated the Water Services Department are progressing plans to upgrade drainage in Abbey Street, Dolphin Street and Moat Bridge. Pedestrianisation of Abbey Street can be examined when drainage works are complete.

In reply to Cllr. Gabriel Burke, Mr. Mulryan stated that water lodging at the Traffic Lights at West Bridge today arose partly due to vegetation blocking the gratings. He also stated he will examine problems with water logging at the Traffic Lights on Main Street.

In reply to Cllr. Gabriel Burke, Mr. Mulryan stated that tenders have been prepared for an overlay of the Athenry Road and it is hoped to complete works before Christmas, weather permitting.

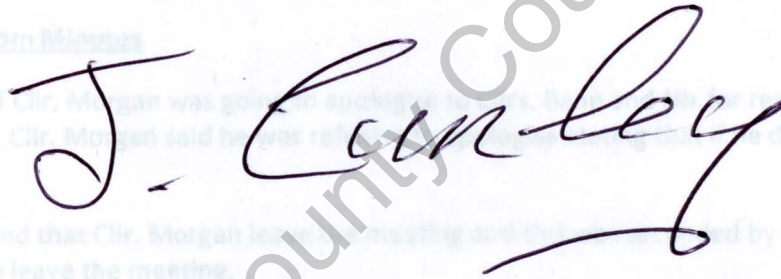
Proposed Traffic Calming - Smarter Travel Scheme

Mr. Mulryan outlined details of proposed works at Cross Street, Moore Street and Bride Street as circulated. He said all options were examined and it is proposed to introduce a one-way system on Moore Street heading towards Bride Street. He said the Gardai have authority to override a one-way system and this should solve the problem with funeral traditions. He said it is proposed to erect railings and zebra crossings. He also stated that line markings will be upgraded in the town. In reply to Cllr. Bane, Mr. Mulryan stated works must be complete by end of November. Cllr. Gabriel Burke asked if Bothar Com could be made a one-way street and Cllr. Hynes said he had queries regarding bad potholes there also. Mr. Mulryan agreed to examine this and stated Bothar Com would ideally require resurfacing which would cost in the region of €40,000 and we do not have a budget of this amount at present.

Presentation

Cllr. Curley asked if he could have a small presentation to Ms. Evelyn Moorehead at the next meeting to recognise her four years of working with Goal in Africa. Cllr. Maher stated that he was disallowed a similar request last year and that the Councillors agreed there would not be presentations unless the achievement was of national interest or the person represented Ireland or Loughrea. It was agreed to seek clarity from Minutes in April/May 2010.

This concluded the business of the Meeting



Minutes and Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 10th October, 2011 in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Chair:

Mayor: Cllr. J. Curley, Mayor.

Members: Cllrs. G. Bane, Gabriel Burke, Sylvia Burke, Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, Mary Gunter-Nix, James Regan.

Officials: Jim Cullen, Director of Services, Enda Mulryan, Executive Engineer, Margaret Gilchrist, Town Clerk.

The Meeting opened with Prayer.

The Mayor thanked Cllr. Bane for officiating in his absence stating that she fulfilled her role laudably.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th September, 2011.

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Loughrea Town Council held on 12th September, 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Regan, seconded by Cllr. Nix.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr. Regan asked if Cllr. Morgan was going to apologise to Cllrs. Bane and Nix for remarks made at the June Meeting. Cllr. Morgan said he was refusing to apologise stating that if he did so "he would be telling a lie".

Cllr. Curley proposed that Cllr. Morgan leave the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr. Regan. Cllr. Morgan refused to leave the meeting.

Mr. Cullen advised that the business of the Town Council is carried out by resolution of the Town Council and the Standing Orders deal with this matter. He advised that in his opinion it was in order for the Town Councillors to make the proposal as has been done and the issue should be resolved by the Town Councillors.

Cllr. Bane stated that she wished to record the comments made by Cllr. Morgan to her and Cllr. Nix i.e. "antichrists and hypocrites" and the remarks have been reported by the press and caused distress to her and her family. She stated that Cllr. Morgan's interpretation of the Standing Orders would mean that members could insult each other "ad lib" and set a precedent for future meetings. Cllr. Regan stated that the Members drew up the rules, with guidance and the Members must have respect for each other.

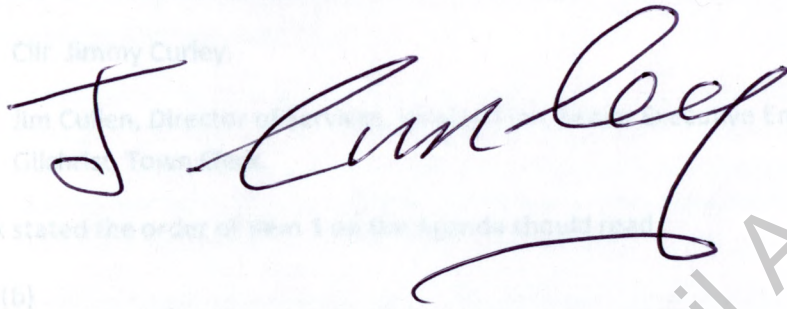
Cllr. Bane asked Cllr. Morgan to apologise and have the matter finished with so that the business of the Town Council could proceed. Cllr. Nix agreed. Cllr. Curley adjourned the Meeting for 5 minutes.

On resumption, Cllr. Curley asked Cllr. Morgan if he would apologise yes/no. Cllr. Morgan said he could not accept that. Cllr. Bane asked if Cllr. Morgan would withdraw the remarks made, from the record. Cllr. Morgan said yes. Cllr. Nix stated she would prefer an apology and in particular as she felt she was insulted again at this meeting. Cllr. Bane said she supported Cllr. Nix on this.

Mr. Cullen stated that it was very disappointing that efforts made to resolve the matter had failed. He said that regardless of the particular issue involved here it had to be dealt with now in a business like manner. He said the business of the Town Council must be conducted and this matter could not be allowed to prevent that happening. He stated the Town Council as a body acts by resolution and decisions must be lawfully made. He repeated Standing Order 49 outlining the procedure for dealing with this matter.

Cllr. Curley proposed to adjourn the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr. Regan.

The Meeting adjourned at 8.00 p.m.



1. (b) Confirmation of Minutes of A.G.M. held on 12th June 2022.

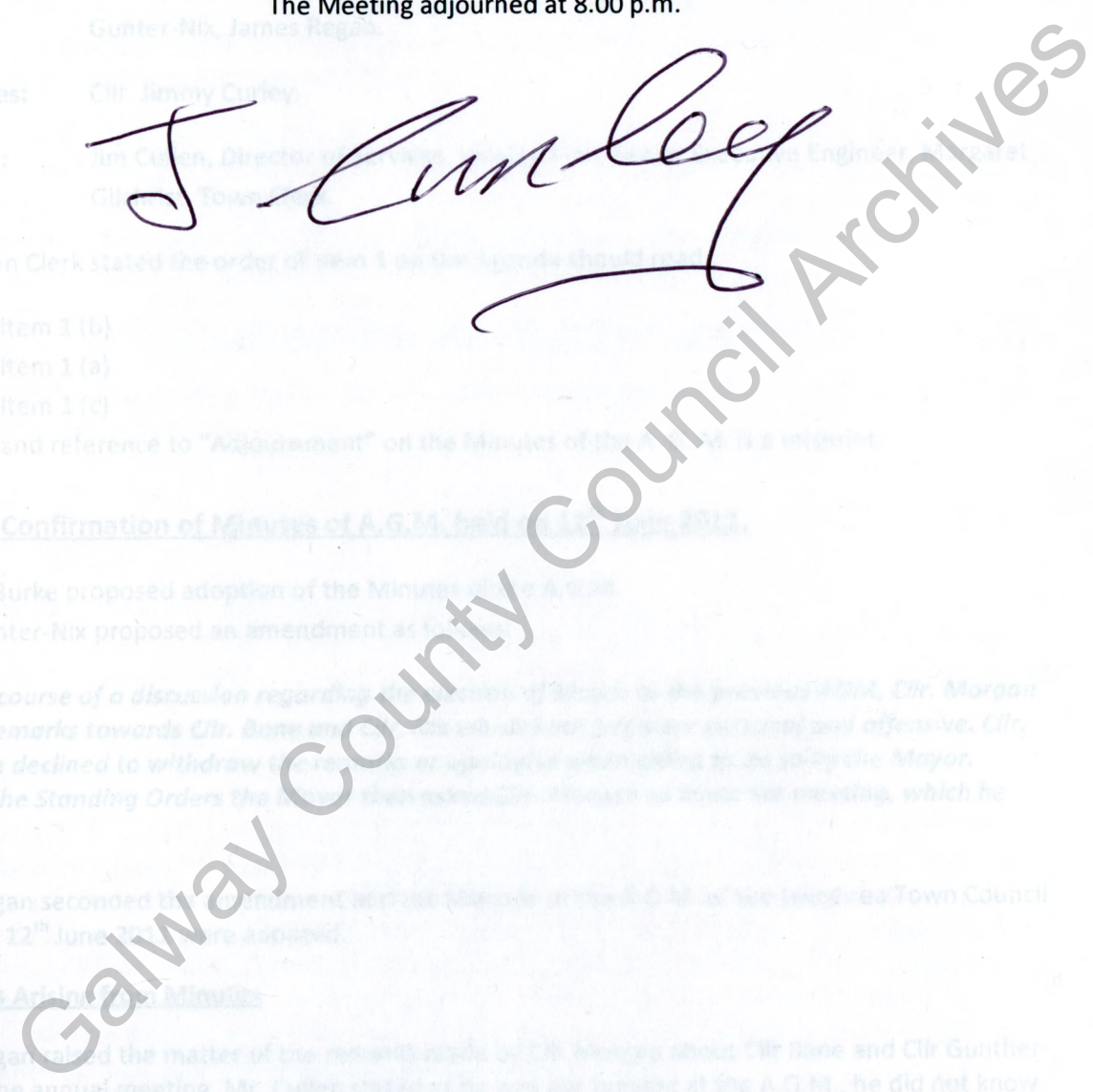
Cllr. G. Burke proposed adoption of the Minutes of the A.G.M. held on 12th June 2022.
Cllr. Gunter-Nix proposed an amendment as follows:
"In the course of a discussion regarding the minutes of the previous AGM, Cllr. Morgan made remarks towards Cllr. Bone and Cllr. Gunter-Nix which were offensive. Cllr. Morgan declined to withdraw the remarks or apologise which is in breach of the Standing Orders. Under the Standing Orders the Mayor should have intervened at this meeting, which he did."

Cllr. Regan seconded the amendment.
The amendment was adopted.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr. Regan raised the matter of the minutes of the AGM. Cllr. Bone and Cllr. Gunter-Nix at the annual meeting. Mr. Cullen stated that at the AGM, he did not know what remarks were made but it is a matter for the Town Council to decide how to proceed. The Town Council is entitled to decide if proceedings should be taken and that it was up to Cllr. Morgan to decide for himself what to do about the situation. The situation is covered by Section 49 of the Standing Orders.

Cllr. Regan proposed that Cllr. Morgan should be asked to apologise to Cllrs. Bone and Gunter-Nix and if that if he was unwilling to do so that he should be asked to leave the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Maher.



**Minutes and Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of Loughrea Town
Council held on 12th September, 2011 in the County Council Offices,
Barrack Street, Loughrea.**

I láthar:

Mayor: Cllr. G. Bane – Deputy Mayor.

Members: Cllrs. Gabriel Burke, Sylvia Burke, Pat Hynes, Michael Maher, Norman Morgan, Mary Gunter-Nix, James Regan.

Apologies: Cllr. Jimmy Curley.

Officials: Jim Cullen, Director of Services, Uinsinn Finn, Senior Executive Engineer, Margaret Gilchrist, Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk stated the order of Item 1 on the Agenda should read :

Item 1 (b)

Item 1 (a)

Item 1 (c)

and reference to "Adjournment" on the Minutes of the A. G. M. is a misprint.

1. (b) Confirmation of Minutes of A.G.M. held on 12th June 2011.

Cllr. G. Burke proposed adoption of the Minutes of the A.G.M.

Cllr. Gunter-Nix proposed an amendment as follows:

"In the course of a discussion regarding the election of Mayor at the previous AGM, Cllr. Morgan made remarks towards Cllr. Bane and Cllr. Nix which both felt were personal and offensive. Cllr. Morgan declined to withdraw the remarks or apologise when asked to do so by the Mayor. Under the Standing Orders the Mayor then asked Cllr. Morgan to leave the meeting, which he did."

Cllr. Regan seconded the amendment and the Minutes of the A.G.M. of the Loughrea Town Council held on 12th June 2011 were adopted.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr. Regan raised the matter of the remarks made by Cllr Morgan about Cllr Bane and Cllr Gunther-Nix at the annual meeting. Mr. Cullen stated as he was not present at the A.G.M., he did not know what remarks were made but it is a matter for the Town Council to decide how to proceed. The Town Council is entitled to decide if an apology is merited and that it was up to Cllr. Morgan to decide for himself what to do about that. Mr. Cullen said that this situation is covered by Section 49 of the Standing Orders.

Cllr. Regan proposed that Cllr. Morgan should be asked to apologise to Cllrs. Bane and Gunter-Nix and if that if he was unwilling to do so that he be requested to leave the Meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Maher.

Cllr. Morgan stated that his interpretation of the Standing Orders was that as he had been required to leave the annual meeting then as far as he is concerned the matter is over.

Mr. Cullen stated that his role as Manager is to advise the Members of the Town Council. He clarified the matter and confirmed his interpretation of the Standing Orders that if the Members decide a retraction or an apology is warranted and if Cllr. Morgan refuses he may be asked to leave the Meeting and each subsequent Meeting until the matter is resolved. The Standing Orders are not open to exclude the Councillor indefinitely and there is no obligation on him to offer anything.

Cllr. Morgan stated he said nothing untrue and his explanation was not accepted on the night. Mr. Cullen stated that the issue at the moment was whatever remarks had been made and if they warrant an apology – not the motivation that led to the remarks. He said there is important business to be conducted and the Meeting must move on.

Cllr. Bane, as Deputy Mayor and colleague asked Cllr. Morgan if he was prepared to apologise for the remarks made to her and Cllr. Gunter-Nix. Cllr. Morgan said he was prepared to state no offence was intended on his part. Cllr. Bane stated she would have to ask him to leave the Meeting. Cllr. Morgan stated he may refer the matter to the Ombudsman and there was no organisation more undemocratic than Loughrea Town Council and he left the Meeting.

1. (a) Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on 12th June 2011

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th June 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. G. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Gunter-Nix.

Matters Arising

Flooding – OPW

In reply to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Finn stated that the OPW are not prepared to fund those works and it is a matter for the Local Authority. He said a water-main is to be placed in Abbey Street and any works will have to tie in with same.

Cllr. G. Burke raised a query in relation to surface water on the Athenry Road from the Hotel down to Westbridge and surface water ponding on the Old Galway Road at Mulhollands.

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke Mr. Finn stated that firstly in relation to ponding on the Old Galway Road, it was attempted to connect a gully to the surface water sewer at the time that the traffic lights and resurfacing works were carried out in 2010. However, due to the gradients available it was not possible to achieve a connection. Secondly, in relation to the Athenry Road there is a blocked stone shore that runs from Mount Carmel to Dolphin Street and into the stream. A camera survey was carried out on this shore and it was found to be blocked under private property. It is proposed to resurface the N66 Athenry Road this year and provision of a new surface water sewer on the Athenry Road and dolphin street is included in the works contract.

Blue Flag

Cllr. Maher complimented the Environment Section on the launch earlier today of the "Discover Beaches" brochure which included the loughrea Long Point.

Tidy Towns

Cllrs. Regan and G. Burke complimented all involved in securing this year's improved results and Cllr. G. Burke proposed an official letter of appreciation issue to the Committee. Cllr. Gunter-Nix

thanked Mr. Mulryan and Ms. Baker for their contribution and Cllr. G. Burke said the Fair Green and Long Point was like a lawn this year and that it hasn't looked as well for years.

In relation to the voluntary assistance, Mr. Cullen commented on their benefit during constrained budget times. The benefits and assistance we get from the voluntary sector and by taking ownership transform the effectiveness, particularly in environmental improvement. Mr. Cullen stated that the voluntary contribution is very strong in Loughrea and he hopes it continues and grows.

Cllr. G. Bane acknowledged the increase in marks this year and congratulated all involved. She said a core group of volunteers go out in all types of weather and a lot of people work individually also. Referring to Killarney where there is a mosaic covering and linking all the active groups including Chamber of Commerce, Triathlon Club, Tidy Towns, Lions Club, County Council and Town Council for a joint effort. She said this could push Loughrea to meet its potential. She proposed that we should officially write to them to congratulate them as a group on the mark that was achieved.

Cllr. Regan also proposed that the Local Authority come together with the committee and examine the documentation with a view to improving the result again in 2012. Cllr. Gunter-Nix supported this idea and suggested that the Tidy Towns group could be nominated under the Mayoral Awards 2011. Cllr. Maher supported the idea of a joined-up group with representatives from each of the authorities who might only meet every few months but that is what is needed to get to the next level and to win the Tidy Town's award.

Smarter Travel

In reply to Cllr. G. Burke, Mr. Finn stated an allocation of €150,000 was received under the jobs initiative and in support of smarter travel bid. This allocation is for a submission to improve the traffic and pedestrian movements at the school, Cross Street, Moore Street, Woodford Road junction. This has a tight timeframe and must be completed this year. A second submission for €100,000 was made for walking/cycling initiatives, speed ramps etc. and this is specific to the Smarter Travel Bid. We have made a submission for funding works at Mount Carmel to take the HGV's out of the residential areas and Coscarrig Area. We have included the provision of speed cushions on residential roads and around the school in the proposal. The objective is to encourage people, including children to walk or cycle.

In reply to Cllr. Bane's question on works at the schools, Mr. Finn stated the objective was to make the junction more accessible for children and children supervised by adults to walk to school, or at least to be dropped off and walk the final section to school. Traffic Lights are included in the Smarter Travel bid and may be considered but we are concerned that they could cause a backlog at peak times while a roundabout would favour traffic but not pedestrians. Finally we are considering maintaining the junction priority as it is at present but with improvements such as raised crossings for pedestrians. Mr. Finn stated that key to the proposal is that Moore Street must be made one-way. In reply to Cllr. Bane Mr. Finn stated that we would have preferred to have had the works carried out during the school closure times but due to the late allocation of funds works will have to be carried out during the school term but it is intended works will not commence until after 9.30 a.m. and discussion will take place between the Local Authorities, School Management Board and Residents.

Cllr. Hynes stated he favoured provision of a footpath at the Swimming Pool site to link the old N6 with the two housing estates to facilitate access to shops. He said that many people in this area have no cars and that it is a long walk down the Old Galway Road and out the Atherny Road. This formed part of the submission on Smarter Travel. Cllr. G. Burke supports the idea of a walkway but noted it would require lighting also. Upon request, Mr. Finn stated that he would provide a cost estimate for such a footpath to provide pedestrian access from the residential area out onto the old N6. He stated that this cost estimate would also include for a crossing facility on the old N6 as it is important

that if we provide a footpath we must also include a safe crossing facility as at present it will lead directly out onto the hard shoulder of the old N6.

Cllr. Nix asked if bicycle stands could be provided and considers the car parks beside the flower features would be a suitable location.

Fair Green

Cllr. Bane referred to a section of the Fair Green which remains unfinished. Mr. Finn stated that a contractor has been awarded the works and it will be completed when the weather is favourable and certainly within the next few weeks.

1. (c) Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th July 2011

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11th July 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. Sylvia Burke.

2. Deputation – Loughrea Tennis Club

It was noted that Mr. Billy O'Reilly Chairperson Loughrea Tennis Club who was present earlier had left the building. Mr. Finn informed the Meeting that Mr. Mulryan met representatives of the Tennis Club and hopes to receive funding for a programme of works to include fencing and lighting under the Sports Capital Project. He stated a separate grant is expected for up-grade works e.g. toilets at the Long Point.

3. Correspondence

All correspondence received since the last Meeting had been circulated to the members. Items discussed and decisions taken are as follows:

- **Letter from Loughrea Pipe Band** – It was decided to acknowledge this correspondence and applaud their efforts but financial support cannot be given due to financial constraints and the fact that there are other avenues open to them e.g. Community & Enterprise, Arts Office, Music -Fund etc.
- **Letter from Kells Town Council** – It was decided to support a Motion from Kells Town Council calling on the Minister for Environment to give local Authorities more powers in dealing with derelict sites.
- **Letter from Kilrush Town Council**- It was decided to support a Motion from Kilrush Town Council seeking a revision of the Commercial Rating System.
- **Letter from Galway Rural Development Board** – It was decided to seek clarification from Michael Owens, Galway County Council if the vacancy on the Board caused by the resignation of Cllr. Bane should be a nominee of Loughrea Town Council or Galway County Council

4. Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan

As Cllr. Morgan had left the Meeting this item was not discussed.

5. Any Other Business

Family Fun Rubbish Day

Cllr. Nix stated a Family Fun day is being organised by the Tidy Towns on Sunday from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m. on Sunday 18th September in the Fair Green – no entry fee.

Botharín Cam

Cllr. G. Burke stated this road is in very bad repair and asked that it be examined in connection with Smarter Travel. He said speed ramps would be desirable near the back gates to St. Raphael's and perhaps a one-way system also.

Cllr. Gunter-Nix stated a light is required at the end of Botharín-Cam at Bride Street.

Signage

Cllr. G. Burke stated the signage around the town needs attention as signs are bent and facing in the wrong direction. Mr. Finn will check out same.

Public Lighting

Cllr. Maher stated that a number of Public Lights are out of order. Mr. Finn will ask Area Engineer to follow up on this matter.

Gullies

Cllr. Maher asked if drains and gullies could be cleaned in advance of the wet weather. Mr. Finn stated it is normal practice to clear gullies in the Autumn after the leaves have fallen.

St. Brendan's Court

Cllr. Maher stated it is very dangerous exiting the Estate and asked if either the pillars could be lowered or a yellow box painted on the road. Mr. Finn will examine.

Ros an Óir Estate

Cllr. Maher said residents are unable to park there as other people use the estate as a car park and suggested the "Pay Parking" be extended. Mr. Cullen said the estate is private property.

Bus Bays

Cllr. Regan asked if the Bus Stop areas on Main Street could be highlighted in a different colour similar to Ballinasloe to prevent cars parking there. He also stated there is a problem with lorries mounting the footpaths on Main Street at Pat Loughnanes and Martin Dolans.

Abbey Street

Cllr. Bane stated that there is no regard for speed limits at the top of Abbey Lane where there are some new businesses and asked if it could be pedestrianised under Smarter Travel. Mr. Finn said this can be examined when the water-main is complete.

Lake Road

Cllr. Bane acknowledged the improvements carried out on Lake Road and asked if proposals for a walkway around the lake could be advanced.

Cllr. Hynes stated that the Galway Rural Development fund such projects and now might be the opportune time to advance the project.

Cllr. Maher stated that matching funding is required.

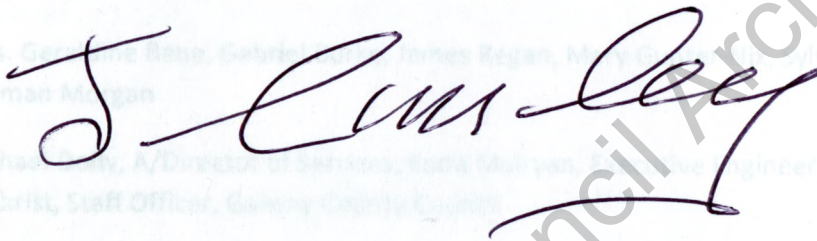
Grange

Cllr. Regan asked if a section at Grange could be piped as it is in a dangerous state. Cllr. Maher stated this would require Notice of Motion funding.

Hedge-cutting

Cllr. G. Burke asked that Cusack's Botharín on the town side of Caherlavine Roundabout be considered under the hedge cutting Programme

This concluded the business of the Meeting



Galway County Council Archives

The Meeting opened with prayer.

Introduction

The Mayor asked Cllr. Morgan if an apology to Cllr. Bane and Gunter-Nix was forthcoming. Cllr. Morgan referred to Standing Order 45.

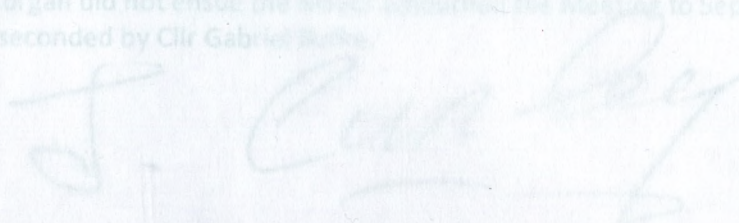
Cllrs. Bane and Gunter-Nix stated they would not sit at the meeting until an apology was received. Cllr. Gabriel Burke stated he was elected to help the Town and asked that personality clashes not be taken to the Town Council. He stated Cllr. Morgan may have spoken in the heat of the moment and the remarks at the meeting held on 13th June were offensive and down-grading.

Mr. Dolly stated that the meeting was conducted in an orderly manner in the past, he would like to propose a motion for the meeting and the request posed to Cllr. Morgan seemed reasonable.

On the proposal Cllr. Regan the Mayor adjourned the meeting for 5 minutes to allow Cllr. Morgan consider the motion.

Adjournment

On resumption of the Meeting the Mayor asked Cllr. Morgan if he was offering an apology stating that both Cllrs. Bane and Gunter-Nix are part of the town with involvement in Tidy Towns, BAFL, Chamber of Commerce, Local Chamber etc. Cllr. Morgan stated he was entitled to make proposals and asked if the two Councillors would apologise to him for depriving him of his rights. As an apology from Cllr. Morgan did not ensue the Mayor adjourned the Meeting to September on the proposal of Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Burke.



Loughrea Town Council Meeting held on 13th July, 2011

Minutes and Proceedings of the Monthly Meeting for Loughrea Town Council held on 11th July, 2011, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

Minutes and Proceedings of the Monthly Meeting for Loughrea Town Council held on the 11th July, 2011, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea.

I Latharai:

Mayor: Cllr. Jimmy Curley

Members: Cllrs. Geraldine Bane, Gabriel Burke, James Regan, Mary Gunter-Nix, Sylvia Burke, Norman Morgan

Officials: Michael Dolly, A/Director of Services, Enda Mulryan, Executive Engineer, Margaret Gilchrist, Staff Officer, Galway County Council

The Meeting opened with prayer.

Introduction

The Mayor asked Cllr. Morgan if an apology to Cllrs. Bane and Gunter-Nix was forthcoming. Cllr. Morgan referred to Standing Order 47. The Mayor referred to Standing Order 49.

Cllrs. Bane and Gunter-Nix stated that they were not prepared to sit at the meeting until an apology was received. Cllr. Gabriel Burke stated that the members are elected to help the Town and asked that personality clashes not impede the business of the Town Council. He stated Cllr. Morgan may have spoke in the heat of the moment but agreed the remarks at the meeting held on 13th June were offensive and down-grading and an apology was in order.

Mr. Dolly stated that the Town Council meetings were conducted in an orderly manner in the past, he would like to proceed with the business of the meeting and the request posed to Cllr. Morgan seemed reasonable.

On the proposal of Cllr. Regan the Mayor adjourned the meeting for 5 minutes to allow Cllr. Morgan consider his position.

Adjournment

On resumption of the Meeting the Mayor again asked Cllr. Morgan if he was offering an apology stating that both Cllrs. Bane and Gunter-Nix are both very pro-active with involvement in Tidy Towns, BAFL, Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club etc. Cllr. Morgan stated he was entitled to make proposals and asked if the two Councillors would apologise to him for depriving him of his rights. As an apology from Cllr. Morgan did not ensue the Mayor adjourned the Meeting to September on the proposal of Cllr. Regan seconded by Cllr Gabriel Burke.

J. Curley

Minutes and Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on the 13th June 2011, in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea

I latharai:

Mayor: Cllr. Jimmy Curley.

Members: Cllrs. Geraldine Bane, Gabriel Burke, James Regan, Mary Gunter Nix, Pat Hynes, Michael Maher.

Officials: Michael Dolly, Senior Engineer, Enda Mulryan, Executive Engineer, Lorraine Cooney, Clerical Officer, Galway County Council.

Apologies: Cllr. Sylvia Burke.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th May, 2011

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Burke, seconded by Cllr. J. Regan and agreed that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 9th May, 2011 be confirmed.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 9th May, 2011

Drain at Corry's Field

Cllr. Bane asked if there was an update on same. Mr. Mulryan stated he was in contact with Road Design and they were not in a position to fund. Mr. Mulryan also stated that piping the drain was not an option as the falls and gradient would not allow for proper drainage and it would result in flooding. Cllr. Maher asked was this area not an SAC if so how can the Council leave this drain in such a state. Mr. Mulryan stated he would contact Road Design regarding the SAC matter.

Manhole Cover, Main Street

Cllr. Maher complimented the Council for completing the works on the manhole cover on Main Street. He stated there were a few manhole covers around the town that the Council might look at that were also noisy.

Playground Loughrea

Cllr. Nix stated that the Tidy Towns have painted the railings in the Playground.

Drain outside Dr. Flaherty's Surgery

Cllr. Regan said that the flooding had been resolved outside Dr. Flaherty's Surgery and he thanked the Council for their work.

Flooding at the Westbridge & Mount Carmel Road

Cllr. Burke stated that there was some flooding occurring at the Westbridge and on the corner across from Mount Carmel Road. Mr. Mulryan said he would investigate same.

Mount Carmel Road

Cllr. Hynes asked that last months minutes be amended to say that he asked that consideration be made to widening the road at Mount Carmel. Cllr. G. Burke stated that he would rather see this road made one way. Cllr. Maher agreed with Cllr. Burke. Cllr. Nix suggested that this road be made one way in a circular fashion exiting at Abbey Terrace. Mr. Mulryan stated that Consultants had been appointed to examine the road in relation to potential traffic calming measures. He stressed that this was just a preliminary design and approval to construction would depend on funding being made available.

HGV's using Mount Carmel Road & Main Street

Cllr. Burke asked if there was any update on the proposal for Mount Carmel Road and queried a ban on HGV's using Mount Carmel Road and Main Street. Mr. Mulryan stated that a blanket ban on HGV's would have to be seriously considered. Cllr. Burke stated we need to bring in a bye law. Mr. Mulryan stated that this is something he will look into. Mr. Dolly stated that it is very difficult to enforce bye laws but it will be explored. Cllr. Bane supported Cllr. Burke on this matter.

Hazelwood Housing Estate, Loughrea

Cllr. Maher asked that the junction at Hazelwood Housing Estate be looked at as it was lethal. Mr. Mulryan stated that this Housing Estate was a private estate and this severely limits what the Council can do.

Flooding outside The Abbey, Loughrea

Cllr. Regan queried about the flooding outside The Abbey. Mr. Mulryan stated that an application was sent to the OPW for funding but that there was no guarantee of getting funds to do these works. Cllr. Maher asked if there was any short term solution. Mr. Mulryan stated that Galway County Council had carried out works on the old culvert to try and improve flow. However the capacity of the culvert remains severely limited.

The Fairgreen, Loughrea

Mr. Mulryan asked all the Councillors if they would consider putting in a decorative gate at the gap in the Fairgreen instead of a seat. He passed around a diagram of same. All Councillors agreed with his proposal.

2. Correspondence

- ❖ Letter from Wexford Borough Council – Notice of Motion regarding assessment of rateable valuations of Commercial Rates. Cllr. G. Burke supported the motion.
- ❖ Letter from Monaghan Town Council – noted.
- ❖ Letter from Fermoy Town Council – noted.
- ❖ Letter from Wexford Borough Council – noted.
- ❖ Letter from ARDS Borough Council – noted.
- ❖ Handout from Irish Council for Social Housing – noted.

Loughrea Town Council Meeting held on 13th June, 2011

- ❖ Handout for the “Golden Mile” of Galway applications – noted.
- ❖ Letter from Galway County Council regarding review of Athenry, Loughrea & Oranmore Local Area Plans – noted.
- ❖ Minutes from Feile na nGael Meeting held on Tuesday 31st May – Cllr. G. Burke queried locations for the parking of Camper Vans for the weekend of the Feile. He suggested the Long Point Car Park. Mr. Dolly stated that we would have to check if there are Bye Laws prohibiting Camping and the parking of Caravans/Camper Vans at the Long Point. Mr. Mulryan to investigate.

3. Notice of Motion – Cllr. Mary Nix

(a) That estate name plates be provided at the entrance to all housing estates in the town.

Cllr. Curley seconded this motion. Mr. Mulryan said it would be investigated but funding would be a big issue.

(b) That a clear map of all the housing estates in Loughrea be provided to the Emergency Services to assist them in responding to calls received.

Cllr. G. Burke seconded this motion. Mr. Mulryan stated that if someone from the Emergency Services contacted us regarding same we would oblige.

(c) That zero tolerance will be given to premises in town who flout the litter laws by failing to sweep and collect cigarette litter, bottles, cans and glasses on the footpaths outside their premises.

Cllr. Bane seconded this motion. Cllr. Nix queried if a notice could go out to these premises with a warning. Mr. Dolly suggested that the Community Warden would call to these premises to ask for their co-operation in cleaning outside their premises. Mr. Mulryan suggested that we look at the Litter Pollution Act and see if there is a standard warning letter that could be issued to these premises that flout the laws and if they continue to flout these laws after this that fines could follow in accordance with the Act.

4. Any Other Business

Blue Flag

Cllr. Bane stated that the Long Point had retained the Blue Flag for another year and wanted to pay tribute to all involved in making this happen.

Bicycles in Town

Cllr. Bane asked if the bikes erected around the town were anything to do with Smarter Travel and queried if there was any extra the funding available. Mr. Mulryan said he was not up to date on this but he would investigate. Cllr. G. Burke stated there were no bicycle racks in Loughrea Town. Mr. Mulryan stated that there have been bicycle racks installed in both Main Street and Barrack Street Car Parks. Cllr. G. Burke thanked Mr. Mulryan.

Loughrea Town Council Meeting held on 13th June, 2011

Minutes and Proceedings of Annual Meeting of Loughrea Town Council
held on the 13th June, 2011 in the County Council Offices, Ballyvaughan

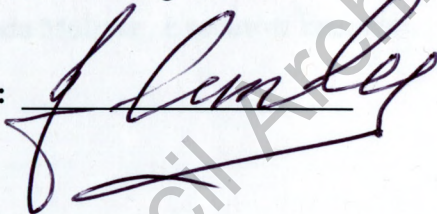
Fr. Raymond Sweeney

Cllr. G. Burke congratulated Fr. Raymond Sweeney on his ordination and asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to him from the Town Council.

Fiver Friday

Cllr. Nix stated that "Fiver Friday" was coming up and urged everyone to spend €5 in their local community.

This concluded the business of Loughrea Town Council Meeting held on 13th June, 2011.

Signed this _____ day of June, 2011. Mayor: 

**Minutes and Proceedings of Annual Meeting of Loughrea Town Council
held on the 13th June, 2011 in the County Council Offices, Barrack
Street, Loughrea**

I latharai:

Mayor: Cllr. Michael Maher

Members: Cllrs. Geraldine Bane, Gabriel Burke, Jimmy Curley, Mary Gunter-Nix,
Pat Hynes, Norman Morgan, James Regan

Officials: Michael Dolly, Senior Engineer, Enda Mulryan, Executive Engineer,
Lorraine Cooney, Clerical Officer

Apologies: Cllr. Sylvia Burke

The Meeting opened with prayer.

Adjournment of Meeting

The Mayor expressed his thanks to the Town Councillors for their help and support during the year. He welcomed Michael Dolly and Enda Mulryan the new Area Engineer, Loughrea and wished him well in his post. He thanked Lorraine Cooney and Anne Monaghan for their assistance during his term of office. He said that he enjoyed the year and he hoped he represented the town well and did his best for it.

Election of Mayor

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

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

Mayor Curley thanked his proposer and seconder. He said that it was an honour and a privilege to be Mayor of the Town of Loughrea. He also thanked the outgoing Mayor Cllr. Maher. He stated that he looked forward to the challenges ahead. He stated that in his term as Mayor he wanted to invite all four local T.D's to a meeting of the Town Council to address the unemployment in Loughrea. He paid tribute to the Swimming Pool Committee for the works they have done so far and would like to see it concluded. He also announced that the new St. Brendan's Building would be opening the first week in September and agreed it was a huge asset to Loughrea.

Election of Deputy Mayor

Loughrea Town Council Annual Meeting held on 13th June 2011

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

Cllr. Bane was proposed by Cllr. Maher and seconded by Cllr. Regan.

As there were no counter proposals, Cllr. Bane was elected Deputy Mayor.

Cllr. Bane thanked her proposer and seconder. She thanked Cllr. Maher on his work in the town for the past year and knows it will continue. She also wished Mayor Curley well on his year ahead as Mayor.

Cllr. Morgan congratulated Cllr. Curley.

Due to Cllr. Morgan not abiding by Standing Orders 45 and 46 of the Loughrea Town Council Mayor J. Curley adjourned the meeting for ten minutes.

On return to the meeting Mayor J. Curley asked Cllr. Morgan if he was willing to apologise for his actions. Cllr. Morgan refused to apologise. Mayor J. Curley then asked Cllr. Morgan to leave the meeting.

All Councillors congratulated Cllr. Curley and Cllr. Bane on their new posts as Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

This concluded the business of Loughrea Town Council Annual Meeting held on 13th June 2010.

Michael Maher

Minutes and Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of Loughrea Town Council held on the 9th May, 2011 in the County Council Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea

I latharai:

Mayor: Cllr. Michael Maher.

Members: Cllrs. Geraldine Bane, Gabriel Burke, Sylvia Burke, Norman Morgan, James Regan, Mary Gunter Nix, Pat Hynes.

Officials: Jim Cullen, Director of Services, Adrian Raftery, Executive Engineer, Lorraine Cooney, Clerical Officer, Galway County Council.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th April, 2011

It was proposed by Cllr. Morgan, seconded by Cllr. G. Burke and agreed that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 11th April, 2011 be confirmed.

Matters Arising from Minutes of 11th April, 2011

Drain at Corry's Field

Cllr. Bane presented photographs of the said drain to the Members and stated that this drain should be filled in. She stated it was dangerous and unsightly. Mr. Raftery stated that he would get an answer from Road Design on the matter.

Footpath outside Temperance Hall

Cllr. Regan asked that the footpath be drained so as water no longer lodges. Mr. Raftery stated this would be part of the works.

Drain outside Dr. Flaherty's Surgery

Cllr. Regan asked that the drain outside Dr. Flaherty's Surgery be looked at as it is flooding. Mr. Raftery stated that he would investigate.

Playground Loughrea

Cllr. G. Burke asked if the works to repair some of the equipment in the playground had been done. Mr. Raftery stated that the Contractor will have these works complete this week.

Manhole Cover, Main Street, Loughrea

Cllr. Maher asked if there was any update on the manhole cover on Main Street. Mr. Raftery stated that he was speaking to Jim McGovern and that the works would be done when the Department approve the funding.

Loughrea Town Council Meeting held on 9th May, 2011

Fairgreen, Loughrea

Cllr. Regan asked if we could block the opening beside the toilet going into the Fairgreen in case of unwanted visitors. Mr. Raftery stated that a seat was ordered and it would be in place next week.

Date for AGM

Cllr. G. Burke proposed that the AGM would be held prior to the next meeting of the Town Council on Monday, 13th June this was seconded by Cllr. Maher.

2. Correspondence

- ❖ Variations to the Galway County Development Plan – Noted
- ❖ Letter from Bandon Town Council regarding Universal Social Charge – Noted.
- ❖ Letter from Shannon Town Council regarding Footpath Maintenance Grant Scheme – this was supported by Cllr. G. Burke and seconded by Cllr. Maher.
- ❖ Handout from Tipperary Peace Convent, International Peace Conference – Noted
- ❖ Invitation to White Paper on Crime, Consultation Meeting – Cllr. G. Burke was nominated to go and Cllr. G. Burke asked that this correspondence be sent to all the members on the JPC.

3. Notice of Motion – Cllr. Norman Morgan

(a) That the street sweeping truck be engaged to include County Council Estates and Private Estates, every four weeks i.e. one quarter of said streets in the first week; second quarter in second week etc.

Cllr. G. Burke asked that this motion be amended to read “any road under the charge of Galway County Council”. Mr. Cullen said that in the current economic climate there was little or no prospect of this happening.

(b) That the Gates of The Walks, on Railway Road be raised so that they can be opened and closed freely; presently this can only be done by forcing the gates and digging ridges in the roadway, and thereby damaging the gates.

Seconded by Cllr. Maher. Mr. Raftery stated that he will look to resolve this.

(c) That the regulations regarding dogs in public place be displayed widely throughout Loughrea Town, including: dogs on leashes, dog cleaning themselves on the streets, on footpaths, and on the grass in our public parks, etc., together with information on prosecutions, fines, etc.

Seconded by Cllr. S. Burke. Cllr. G. Burke queried who can issue fines regarding dog regulations. Mr. Raftery and Mr. Cullen stated that Community Wardens can. Cllr. Bane asked if the Community Warden could police the most effected area i.e. The Long Point and Corry's Field.

Signed this _____ day of May, 2011. Mayor *Michael Maher*

4. Any Other Business

Adrian Raftery

Cllr. Maher thanked Mr. Raftery on all his help over the years with the Town Council and wished him well in his new post in the Water Services Department.

HGV's using Mount Carmel Crescent & Main Street, Loughrea

Cllr. G. Burke asked if there was any update on the weight restrictions for the HGV's. Mr. Raftery stated they were doing up a proposal to send to Road Design.

St. Brendan's Hospital, Loughrea

Cllr. G. Burke queried when the new Hospital was going to open. He also explained that there was no provision for a Chapel in the new building and wanted to know why this was so. He proposed that we write a letter to the HSE to seek answers on these matters this was seconded by Cllr. Hynes. Cllr. Bane asked if there was any response to letter about the Memorabilia and proposed that we write to the HSE again.

Athenry Road & Mount Carmel Crescent

Cllr. G. Burke asked when works were going to be done on the Athenry Road. Mr. Raftery stated that it was being dealt with by Road Design. Cllr. Hynes suggested widening the road. Cllr. G. Burke stated he would be fearful of widening the road he suggested making this road one way. Cllr. Bane agreed with Cllr. G. Burke. Cllr. Bane stated what about using the Mart Road for easy access to the Town Centre. Mr. Cullen stated this would be the preferred route but stated this all needed to be thought about further. Cllr. Nix supported Cllr. Bane's suggestion of using the Mart Road and stated that it would also clean up a very dilapidated looking area.

Outdoor Activities on the Lake, Loughrea

Cllr. S. Burke asked if there was any update on the outdoor activities on the Lake. Cllr. Maher stated he hadn't heard anything but presumed it was not ruled out.

Bins, Barrack Street Car Park, Loughrea

Cllr. Regan asked if there was any update on the bins. Cllr. Maher stated it was ongoing.

Hazelwood Housing Estate, Cosmona

Cllr. Maher asked if anything could be done with the entrance to Hazelwood Housing Estate at Cosmona as it was a death trap due to a wall which is built out on your sight line. Mr. Raftery said this is due to the house on the left. Mr. Cullen stated this was a private estate so there was not much that could be done.

This concluded the business of Loughrea Town Council Meeting held on 9th May, 2011.

Signed this _____ day of May, 2011. Mayor:

Michael Maher