

Tuam Town Council

Telephone: (093)24246
Fax: (093)70463

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam.

30th June, 2004

To each Member of Tuam Town Council

A Chara,

The Monthly meeting of Tuam Town Council will be held in the Town Hall on Monday 5th July, 2004 at 7.00 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angela Nolan

Baile Cierreach

AGENDA

Minutes

Manager's Business

Correspondence

HUB Status

The Grove Hospital

Mayoral Ball

Civic Amenity Centre

Agenda

Continued:

Notices of Motion: Councillor Ward

"I call all County Councilors to support Tuam Town Council and the Tuam Area Councilors to overturn the proposed roadway through the Palace Grounds in Tuam. It is important that this proposal is deleted from the Tuam Traffic Management Plan.

I call on the Manager of Galway County Council to introduce a waver system for refuse collection in Tuam for the elderly of the area, such a waver system is operated in Donegal and Cork. This is not good enough that the elderly who are the least capable of affording such high costs of refuse collection and being forced to pay such high rates. I call on all County Councilors to support this issue.

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Meeting held on Monday, 21st June, 2004

Present: Mayor: Councillor Ward – outgoing

Councillors: M. Kelly, T. McHugh, P. Warren, T. Reilly
A. O'Donnell-Brady, G. Browne-Lane, S. A. Flanagan

Apology Councillor O'Grady

Officials:

Mr. Albert Comer, Assistant Director of Services
Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk

The Prayer was recited.

The Clerk read out the list of Members elected to Tuam Town Council on June 11, 2004.

Election of Mayor:

The outgoing Mayor said it had been a great honour to serve as Mayor. He thanked the Members for their support and paid tribute to the Members who did not seek re-election – Deputy McHugh, Councillor Joyce and Councillor Keaveney. He thanked Mr. Ridge, Director of Services, Mr. Lally, Town Engineer and his staff, and the Town Clerk for their support during the year. He thanked Deputy Mayor O'Grady for his assistance during the year and the Press. He welcomed the newly elected Members. He welcomed Mr. Albert Comer, Acting Director of Services to the Meeting.

He then invited nominations for the position of Mayor. It was proposed by Councillor Reilly and seconded by Councillor Warren that Councillor Kelly be elected to hold the office of Mayor of the Town of Tuam for the coming year. There being no other proposal Councillor Kelly was elected. Councillor Kelly took the Chair. He thanked his proposer, seconder and the Members for electing him Mayor. He said it was a great honour to accept the Chain of Office for the 7th time. He congratulated the outgoing Mayor on a great year's service. He congratulated Councillor Reilly on his election to Galway County Council also outgoing Member Councillor Keaveney. He congratulated Councillor Tom McHugh on his re-election to Galway County Council also Sean Canney on his election and the other Councillors who were re-elected for the Tuam Area. He welcomed the new Members to the Board and paid tribute to the outgoing Members. He thanked the Town Clerk and Staff for the efficient way the count was carried out.

Election of Deputy Mayor:

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor. It was proposed by Councillor Warren and seconded by Councillor Ward that Councillor Reilly be elected Deputy Mayor of the Town of Tuam for the coming year. There being no other proposal Councillor Reilly was elected. Councillor Reilly complemented the Mayor on his election and paid tribute to the outgoing Board. He welcomed the newly elected Members of the Board. He thanked the Director of Services and officials of Galway County Council, the Town Engineer, the Town Clerk and the Press. He said he would be a County Councillor from Friday and would continue to do his best for Tuam.

The Mayor invited the Members to speak.

Councillor McHugh said she was delighted to be elected to the Town Council. She congratulated the other Members on being elected and looked forward to working for the good of Tuam.

Councillor O'Donnell-Brady said it was a great honour to be a Member of the Board. She thanked the People of Tuam for electing her and particularly outgoing member Councillor Joyce for her encouragement.

Councillor Flanagan congratulated everyone elected. She said it was a great honour to be elected to the Town Council and she looked forward to working with the other members for the good of the town. She paid tribute to former member Nora Halion.

Councillor Browne-Lane congratulated Councillor Kelly on his election as Mayor and paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor - Councillor Ward and the previous Board. She said it was regrettable that the Polling Booths were so cramped, this needs to be looked at for future elections.

Councillor Warren congratulated the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He welcomed the new Members to the Board. He congratulated the outgoing Mayor on a great year.

Mr. Comer congratulated the Members on their election. He said Tuam is a thriving town, a Hub Centre with great representation at County Council level. The success of Tuam can be seen in all the new developments. He thanked the outgoing Mayor for a wonderful year's work. He congratulated the new Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He complimented the Town Clerk and her staff on the efficiency of the Count.

Election of delegates to Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland:

It was proposed by Councillor Reilly and seconded by Councillor Warren that Councillor Kelly, and Councillor Browne-Lane represent the Town Council at the Association of Municipal authorities of Ireland.

It was proposed by Councillor Reilly and seconded by councillor Ward that Councillor Flanagan be the deputy representative.

Election of delegate to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd:

It was proposed by Councillor Warren and seconded by Councillor Flanagan that Councillor Reilly represent the Board at the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd.

It was proposed by Councillor Ward and seconded by Councillor Browne-Lane that Councillor McHugh be the deputy representative.

Election of delegate to RAPID:

It was proposed by Councillor Browne-Lane and seconded by Councillor Ward that the Mayor represent the Board at RAPID.

It was proposed by Councillor Reilly and seconded by Councillor Ward that Councillor O'Donnell-Brady be the deputy representative.

Election of delegate to the Fire Brigade Committee:

It was agreed to include Fire Brigade on the Agenda for September.

Meetings:

It was agreed that the monthly meetings of the Town Council be held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

This concluded the meeting.

Recorded by:
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY _____

MAYOR

Tuam Town Council - Annual Meeting 21/6/2004

Appointment of _____

Proposed by Co. J. Keeley that Co. M. Keeley

Seconded by Co. P. Warren Mayor

Proposed by Co. P. Warren that Co. J. Keeley

Seconded by Co. M. Ward Deputy Mayor

Proposed by _____ that _____

Seconded by _____

Proposed by _____ that _____

Seconded by _____

Galway County Council Archives

Tuam Town Council

Telephone: (093)24246
Fax: (093)70463

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam.

14th June, 2004

To: Each Member of Tuam Town Council

A chara,

The Annual meeting of Tuam Town Council will be held in the Town Hall on Monday, 21st June, 2004 at 7 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angela Holian

Baile Cleireach

Agenda

Election of Mayor

Election of Deputy Mayor

Appointment of two delegates to Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland

Appointment of delegate to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd.

Appointment of delegate to Rapid Area Implementation Team

Declaration Of Result

Tuam Town Council
Local Election - 11 June 2004

The following is the result of the poll taken on June 11, 2004 to fill the nine seats in the constituency of Tuam Town Council.
I declare the candidates to be elected (in the following order)

Name	Party	Occupation	Address	Proposer	Proposer's Address
Miko Kelly	Non-Party	Retired Head Postmaster	"Aisling", Church View, Tuam		
Tom Reilly	Fianna Fáil	Public Representative	20 Trinity Court, Tuam		
Sally Ann Flanagan	Fine Gael	Student	12 Woodfield, Galway Road, Tuam		
Martin Ward,	Non-Party	Youth Worker	36 Tirboy, Tuam		
Peter Warren	Fine Gael	Company Representative	Athenry Road, Tuam		
Paul O' Grady	Fine Gael	Surveyor and Publican	"The Deanery", Dublin Road, Tuam		

(The attached result sheet sets out the total number of votes cast for each candidate, any transfer of votes made to each candidate and the total number of votes credited to each candidate at the end of the count at which such transfer took place.)

Returning Officer

Date

Declaration Of Result

Tuam Town Council
Local Election - 11 June 2004

The following is the result of the poll taken on June 11, 2004 to fill the nine seats in the constituency of Tuam Town Council.
I declare the candidates to be elected (in the following order)

Name	Party	Occupation	Address	Proposer	Proposer's Address
Gilleesa Browne-Lane	Non-Party	Special Needs Assistant	37 Fairgreen Hts, Tuam		
Teresa McHugh	Non-Party	Office Manager	Shop Street, Tuam	Peter Mc Donagh	Kilcloghans, Tuam
Ann O Donnell-Brady	Progressive Democrats	Housewife	14 Curragh Park, Tuam		

(The attached result sheet sets out the total number of votes cast for each candidate, any transfer of votes made to each candidate and the total number of votes credited to each candidate at the end of the count at which such transfer took place.)

Angela Kolin
Returning Officer

12, 6, '04
Date

LOCAL ELECTION - 11 June 2004

**CONSTITUENCY OF
TUAM TOWN COUNCIL**

TOTAL ELECTORATE	5,281
INVALID BALLOT PAPERS	53
VALID POLL	3,133
NUMBER OF SEATS	9
QUOTA	314

CANDIDATE(S) ELECTED

MIKO KELLY (NON-P)	TERESA MCHUGH (NON-P)
TOM REILLY (F.F.)	ANN O DONNELL-BRADY (P.D.)
SALLY ANN FLANAGAN (F.G.)	
MARTIN WARD, (NON-P)	
PETER WARREN (F.G.)	
PAUL O' GRADY (F.G.)	
GILLEESA BROWNE-LANE (NON-P)	

NAMES OF CANDIDATES (14 No.) <i>(* Denotes outgoing member)</i>	First Count	Second Count	Third Count	Fourth Count	Fifth Count	Sixth Count	Seventh Count	Eighth Count	Ninth Count	Tenth Count	Eleventh Count
	Number of Votes	Transfer of Kelly, M's Surplus and Result	Transfer of Reilly, T's Surplus and Result	Transfer of Flanagan, S's Surplus and Result	Transfer of Ward, M's Surplus and Result	Transfer of Mullins, M's and Nevin, S's Votes and Result	Transfer of Warren, P's Surplus and Result	Transfer of Desmond, J's Votes and Result	Transfer of Melody, J's Votes and Result	Transfer of Browne-Lane, G's Surplus and Result	Transfer of O'Grady, P's Surplus and Result
* BROWNE-LANE, GILLEESA (NON-P)	237	+29	+6	+15	+5	+20	-	+22	-	-20	
Desmond, Joe (S.F.)	108	+4	+2	+4	+6	+4	-	-128		314	314
FLANAGAN, SALLY ANN (F.G.)	375	-	-	-61							
Hughes, Karen (F.F.)	133	+20	+13	+4	+8	+14	-	+17	+30	+4	
* KELLY, MIKO (NON-P)	502	-188									243
MCHUGH, TERESA (NON-P)	186	+17	+5	+7	+4	+4	+1	+7	+17	+6	314
Melody, Josephine (F.F.)	95	+12	+7	+5	+2	+12	+3	+16	-152		254
Mullins, Michael (F.F.)	43	+8	+9	+3	+2	-65					
Nevin, Siobhan (G.P.)	28	+3	+1	+4	+2	-38					
O DONNELL-BRADY, ANN (P.D.)	180	+10	+5	+6	+2	+8	+1	+12	+19	-	+1
* O' GRADY, PAUL (F.G.)	244	+40	+9	+13	+9	-	-	224	243	243	244
REILLY, TOM (F.F.)	385	-	-71								314
* WARD,, MARTIN (NON-P)	354	-	-	-	-40						314
* WARREN, PETER (F.G.)	263	+45	+14	-	-	-	-8				314
Non-transferable papers not effective						+41	+3	+54	+86	+10	
TOTAL	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133	3,133

Angela Holman
Returning Officer

12/6/04
Date

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday 10th May, 2004

Present:

Mayor Councillor M. Ward

**Councillors: G. Browne Lane, C. Keaveney, P. Warren,
P. O'Grady, M. Kelly, T. Reilly, P. McHugh, G. Joyce.**

Officials:

**Mr. Paul Ridge, Director of Services,
Mr. Tom Kavanagh, Acting County Manager
Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk**

The Prayer was recited.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the April Meeting were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Kelly seconded by Councillor Reilly.

Deputation:

The Mayor welcomed a Deputation from Tuam Traders and Shoppers – Mr. Jarlath Kelly, Mr. Pat Lane, Ms. Patricia Curley, and Mr. Joe Cummins to the Meeting. He also welcomed Senator Michael Kitt to the Meeting. Mr. Kelly outlined the problems. Since the closure of Abbey Trinity Car Park it has been next to impossible for shoppers and visitors to the town to find parking within an acceptable distance from their destination. Traders are reporting sudden severe losses in turnover, in some cases as high as 30% to 40%. Long-standing and loyal customers are confirming that they are no longer able to access Tuam Town Centre and are shopping elsewhere. He welcomed the introduction of 'maximum stay' on-street parking but this will not address the current crisis. He said Business People and Shoppers in Tuam are open minded and will assist the Council in anyway possible to alleviate the current problem, but without the provision of additional car parking spaces, in the form of municipal car parks, actions and initiatives from both the Public and Council will have little effect. He outlined possible areas that may provide additional car parking spaces.

The Members complimented the Traders on their presentation and acknowledged the problems being experienced. They said "Pay and display" parking will relieve some of the pressure but there is still a need for long term parking spaces located outside the town area. Senator Kitt, a Member of the Western Health Board, said discussions between the Western Health Board and Galway County Council were at an advanced stage.

The Deputation thanked the Mayor and Members, Mr. Kavanagh and Mr. Ridge for meeting them and left.

The Mayor welcomed a Deputation from Tuam Branch Irish Wheelchair Association: Ms. Celine O'Sullivan, Mr. & Mrs. John McVeigh, Ms. Breda Naughton, Mr. Jimmy Sweeney and Ms. Yvonne Fahy. Ms. O'Sullivan outlined the difficulties being experienced by People with disabilities in Tuam. She said People with disabilities need to have access to Services, Education, Leisure Activities, Health Services and Transport. She described a trip from the Wheelchair Centre on Dublin Road to the Town Centre and the problems faced, no dishing on footpaths, bumpy footpaths and cars and dust-bins parked on footpaths. She said People constantly park on spaces for the disabled. She thanked all the People in Tuam who help the disabled and appealed for more voluntary drivers for the Tuam Branch.

The Mayor and Members thanked the Deputation for their presentation.

Matters arising from Minutes:

Traffic Management Plan/Deputation from Tuam Traders: Councillor Browne-Lane stated that the situation regarding the Lane has not improved and the Pedestrian Crossing at the Square continues to be impeded. Councillor Kelly stated that planning permission for a car park at St. Mary's Cathedral was refused and called on Galway County Council to review the decision as a car park at St. Mary's would alleviate parking on High Street. Councillor Reilly referred to the protest/Deputation by the Town Traders and called on the County Council to take their views on Board. He said space on the Milltown Road could be utilised for long-term parking, also space at the Station and Tuam Stadium. Councillor O'Grady proposed that the Schools be contacted with a view to making their parking areas available. He said the area near the Coca-Cola premises would be ideal as a long-term parking facility. Councillor McHugh said he acknowledged the effect on businesses in the town but the 'pay and display' will relieve some of the pressure. He said there was a great need for long-term parking outside the town area and the site identified on the Galway Road would be ideal for commuters to Galway.

Replying Mr. Ridge acknowledge the difficulties being experienced at present but said there was a programme of work in place, the work of installing the "pay and display" meters had begun and this will be operational by the end of the month. All street parking will have to be paid for. (20m is being invested in Tuam at the moment and this is to be welcomed. Galway County Council will invest in the various street-scapes, - designs are being developed and will be brought before the Town Council in due course. In a recent survey of the Tuam Cathedral car-park, which can cater for two hundred and fifty cars, only eighty cars were parked there.

It was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by the Mayor and agreed to request the Banks to arrange parking for their staff at the Cathedral car-park. The Town Engineer was requested to investigate the provision of extra parking spaces at the bridge at Shop Street. The Town Engineer agreed to investigate regarding the Traffic Lights at the Ballygaddy Road/Milltown Road junction.

Regarding the Deputation from Tuam Branch Irish Wheelchair Association Mr. Ridge said some of the issues had been addressed already and the Town Engineer will continue to address the issues raised.

Managers Business:

Regarding the Civic Amenity Centre Mr. Kavanagh told the Members he was attending the meeting to listen to their views. He said when the Landfill site in Tuam closed in 1998 there was an agreement to accept black bags for a limited period. Since then the issue of waste management has changed. The centre will continue as a recycling facility but will not accept un-segregated domestic waste. He also said Galway County Council will not be providing a composting facility. Following a lengthy discussion on the matter it was proposed by Councillor Browne-Lane, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed to 'Leave the matter as it stands, ask Galway County Council to investigate further and a decision to be made by the incoming Board'.

Correspondence:

The following letters were read, noted and agreed:

Letter dated 12th March, 2004 from Mr. Pat O'Hora, Old Tuam Society – read.

Letter dated 16th March, 2004 from Balbriggan Town Council – read.

Letter dated 7th April, 2004 from Letterkenny Town Council – read.

Letter dated 4th May, 2004 from Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland – noted.

Letter dated 4th May, 2004 from Castlebar Regional Centre – noted.

U. D. C. STATUS:

On the suggestion of Mr. Ridge, Director of Services it was agreed to change this heading to Hub Status.

Mayoral Ball:

It was agreed to include Mayoral Ball on the agenda for the next meeting.

Section 83 Notice:

Approval of the sale of house at No. 1 Gilmartin Road, Tuam to Ms. Mary Mannion had been circulated to the Members. The sale was approved on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Browne-Lane.

Abstract of Accounts:

Mr. Ridge gave details of the Audit Report approving the Abstract of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 2002.

Nominations:

It was proposed by Councillor Kelly and seconded by the Mayor that the Minister be requested to withdraw the condition whereby Non-Party candidates require the signature of fifteen Assentors.

The Mayor presented a Gong, made by Mr. Liam Ainsworth, to the Council. He said he enjoyed his year as Mayor, which had been very busy. He thanked the Members for their support during the year especially the Deputy Mayor. He thanked the Director of Services, the Town Engineer, the Town Clerk and the Press for their support. He wished the Members seeking re-election good luck.

Sympathy:

A vote of sympathy was passed with the following Families:

Feeley Family, Airglooney on the death of Margaret
Reilly Family, Old Road on the death of Kieran
Concanon Family, Weir Road on the death of Jimmy
Moggan Family, Ballydotia on the death of James

This concluded the meeting.

Recorded by,
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY:


MAYOR

10th May 2004

Petition to Tuam Town Council and Mr. Paul Ridge, Acting County Manager, on behalf of Tuam Traders and shoppers.

- Since the closure of Abbey Trinity Car Park it has been next to impossible for shoppers and visitors to the town to find parking within an acceptable distance from their destination.
- Traders are reporting sudden severe losses in turnover, since the closure of Abbey Trinity Car Park. In some cases this is as high as 30% to 40% and is unsustainable.
- Long-standing and loyal customers are confirming that they are no longer able to access Tuam town centre and are shopping elsewhere.
- We welcome the long overdue introduction of "maximum stay" on-street parking, but this will not address the current crisis, either short term or in the long term. **At busy times it is vital that shoppers have a reasonably central open car park with a high probability of available parking spaces. Without this prospective visitors and shoppers are deciding to avoid to town centre completely.**
- Successful market towns need central parking facilities and without them businesses and shoppers will drift to the parameters or to larger towns and cities. Unfortunately this trend is becoming evident here already and if we do not encourage its reversal we risk losing Tuam's unique status as an historic and still vibrant market town serving a wide hinterland with commitment and diversity.
- Business people and shoppers in Tuam are open minded and will assist the Council in anyway possible to alleviate the current problem. But without the provision of additional car parking spaces, in the form of municipal car parks, actions and initiatives from both public and council will have little effect.

Possible areas that may provide additional car parking spaces .

Permanent short stay for shoppers and visitors.

Bon Secours at front (30-40 spaces)
Tommy Varden's Field (50-60 spaces)
Grehan's Field (100- 150 spaces)

Seasonal/ weekend short stay.

St Jarlath's College (200 spaces)
Presentation Primary School (50 spaces)
Mercy Schools. (50 spaces)

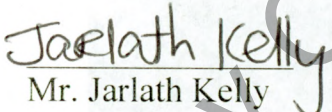
Long stay parking for workers and business owners.

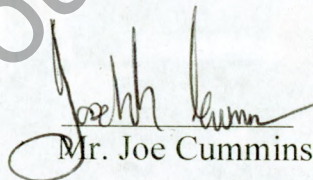
St Mary's Cathedral (30+ spaces)
Tuam Co-op Mart, N17 Side, (70 + spaces)
St Patrick's Grounds, (150-200 spaces)
Ironraid Eireann (300+)
Tuam Stadium (150+)

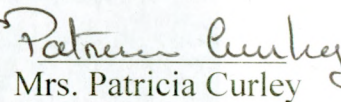
"Park and Ride" spaces for commuters to Galway.

Public private partnership with Coca Cola, or others, on N17 (3 to 4 acres)

Please acknowledge that there is a problem and give our submission serious consideration. We request that you make contact with the relevant individuals in connection with providing additional parking spaces and report to us at a meeting with you in two weeks time.


Mr. Jarlath Kelly


Mr. Joe Cummins


Mrs. Patricia Curley

Pavement too high – have to travel on road High Street

Blaming the Authorities



The Pavement at Town Hall in busiest location



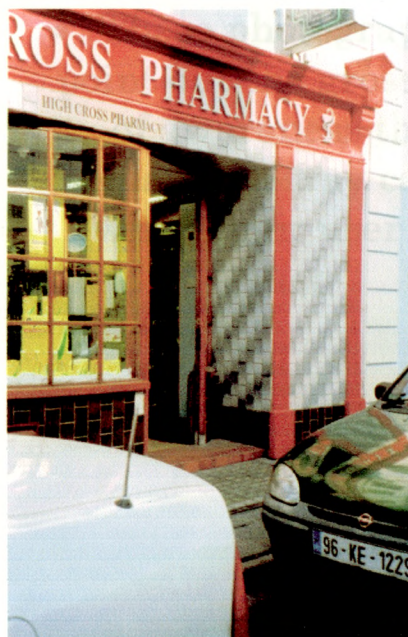
Pavement too high – have to travel on road High Street

Abuse of disabled Parking Areas

- This is Shop St – busy shopping area. This is the only parking for disabled.



- Steps into pharmacy – constant parking and no dishing on pavement at any point



Abuse of parking



this lady had to step into
the road



- Cars on pavement – no way of proceeding except on the road.

- These photographs point out the gross lack of awareness that exists— no way can a wheelchair user get past



Narrow Pavements on corner
– this lady had to step into
the road



This is the infamous
“viewing platform” built on
the pavement so that we
have to go on the road – a
throughway for trucks and
vans

The Banks in Tuam



The only entrance to the AIB

The ATM at the Ulster Bank

Only entrance to Ulster Bank



Would traveling on the road in traffic be safer?



No way to get on pavement at crossroads



Wheelchair Association - Deputation

Tuam Town Council

Telephone: (093)24246

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam.

5th May, 2004

To each Member of Tuam Town Council

A Chara,

The Monthly meeting of Tuam Town Council will be held in the Town Hall on Monday 10th May, 2004 at 7.00 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angel Nolan Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Minutes

Manager's Business

Correspondence

U. D. C. Status

The Grove Hospital

Mayoral Ball

Sale of House at No. 1 Gilmartin Road, Tuam

Abstract of Accounts

Wheelchair Association - Deputation

Tuam Town Council

Minutes of Special Meeting held on Monday 19th April, 2004

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Ward

**Councillors: P. Warren, M. Kelly, G. Browne-Lane,
P. O'Grady.**

Officials:

**Mr. Paul Ridge, Director of Services
Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk
Mr. Dermot Mahon, RAPID Co-ordinator**

Apology

Councillor Joyce, Councillor Reilly

The Prayer was recited.

**The Meeting was called to discuss the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines and the
RAPID Programme Leverage Fund 2004.**

Letter dated 14th April, 2004 from Mr. Paddy McHugh, T.D. regarding a Bus Shelter at Vicar Street was read. The Town Engineer stated that following a survey Galway County Council agreed to widen the footpath to facilitate the bus Shelter.

Draft Regional Planning Guidelines:

Mr. Ridge told the meeting that the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines are on public display until the 26th April, 2004.

In the initial submission important issues both Nationally and Regionally that needed to be addressed in the Regional Planning Guidelines were identified. These included:

- (1) Identifying Tuam as a Hub Town and how the development of Tuam would benefit North Galway, South Mayo and parts of Roscommon. Also stressed was the need to examine and address how the development of all Hubs would progress within the region.
- (2) The need to create a counter-balance corridor along the N17/18 axis to develop and promote the region.
- (3) The importance of developing infrastructure for economic development to flourish. This included the development of road, public transport, housing and environmental conservation and enhancement.

Within the current Draft Regional Planning guidelines strategic goals have been outlined which will assist Tuam in its development. These include:

'To identify, formulate and implement policies that will promote the gateway, Galway, and Hubs Tuam and Castlebar and Ballina into achieving their targets and fulfil their role as set out in the N. S. S. coupled with supporting a settlement strategy that will help to encourage the growth of towns and villages enabling them to service their rural hinterland'.

This clearly includes a goal to put policies in place to encourage the growth of Tuam to a population of 15,000 – 20,000. Other goals that will help in promoting Tuam include:

'Promote a comprehensive range of public transport options'

'Ensure that the telecommunication network in the region is upgraded extensively, so that it can attract additional investment'

'To support a framework which incorporates a network of places creating a Western Developmental Corridor, which will enhance economic, social and environmental opportunities and will enable the western seaboard to compete successfully with other economic corridors thus benefiting the people of the whole region.'

In Chapter 5 of the Draft Regional Guidelines the strategic development recommended for the region is the development of a growing and attractive gateway and hubs including Tuam along with the development of smaller key centres.

The Draft Guidelines outline the essential requirements for the attainment of the goals indicated earlier. These include:

- (a) The upgrading of the N17 Northwards and N18 Southwards with the combined N18 and N17 providing the North/South corridor to promote growth.
- (b) It is of the utmost importance that the provision of Broadband facilities is provided in the remaining hubs, not already serviced namely Castlebar and Tuam.

On large-scale potential development for the region the Draft Guidelines include some, which will help to promote and enhance Tuam. These include:

- (i) The reservation of a strategic economic corridor from Oranmore to Attymon paralleling the Galway Dublin rail line and 4km wide. This corridor will have a positive impact on Tuam.
- (ii) The development of the Corrib Gas field and distribution of same serving Tuam.
- (iii) The development of the Western Rail corridor.

The Draft Regional Guidelines deal with the N.S.S. Gateway and Hub requirements. The needs requirement for tuam as a hub include:

- (a) Network/Piping need to be upgraded in the core urban area
- (b) Outreach/third level research facilities are required to support potential investment in enterprise
- (c) Provision of healthcare service – local services for its rural hinterland. Acute services with easy access
- (d) Investment in the retailing/commercial facilities
- (e) Provision of high quality hotel/leisure facilities
- (f) Revision of broadband facilities – Commuter rail service to and from Galway city and the regions
- (g) Commencement of the N17 scheme (new route)

A new Development Plan for the town of Tuam is currently being prepared. With the Regional Guidelines is a table of relevant data for the Tuam Hub and linked hubs of Castlebar and Ballina. This is produced here for information

In summary, for Tuam to develop as a Hub Town it is essential that the needs identified in the Draft Regional Guidelines are carried into the new Regional Guidelines and promoted. These include:

- (h) Promotion and development of the Western Economic corridor
- (i) Develop infrastructure in and around Tuam to include Roads (N17), Western Rail Corridor, Water and Surface Water development and telecommunications with broadband.
- (j) Promote and develop I.D.A. technology parks within the town
- (k) Develop educational and healthcare services with the town
- (l) Provide high quality hotel, leisure and recreational facilities in the town
- (m) Continue to invest in retail and commercial facilities with the town

We should support the proposals within the Regional Planning Guidelines and press to have them implemented. The Regional Planning Guidelines should include for the further implementation and development of the Hub Towns status as promoted by the National Spatial Strategy.

The Members proposed that the Heritage aspect of Tuam be emphasised, the riverside walks and the palace grounds should be enhanced and further developed. Third level education services should be considered also improved sport facilities with the emphasis on facilitating the schools and Ladies sports. Lands adjacent to the Railway Station and the Mart should be acquired also lands for retail expansion and Industrial Development. The connection of Tuam to the gas main should be prioritised. There was unanimous support for the submission as outlined by Mr. Ridge, the submission to include the points raised by the Members.

Rapid Programme Leverage Fund 2004:

Mr. Mahon circulated details of the Rapid Programme Leverage Fund 2004 (attached). Under the scheme funding will be made under a number of headings:

- (1) Development of open spaces and estate enhancement. The works included under this heading will be: Landscaping, paving boundary walls, development of open spaces (to reduce anti-social behaviour/visual improvement of run-down area)
There is a maximum fund of E50,000 per area.
- (2) Development of Playgrounds. This fund is to be used for the development of new play facilities or refurbishment of existing facilities. The maximum allocation in this category is E90,000, depending of area population.

(3) Sports Capital Programme.

Additional Schemes being considered are the provision of funding for schools/after-schools clubs for catering equipment to provide school meals/breakfast clubs. The provision of funding for schools to develop outdoor facilities/play/sport areas.

New Legislation is being introduced which will mean changes to the way the Dormant Accounts Fund is administered.

The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs intend to consult with local AIT's and county Development Boards in a series of regional meetings commencing in mid April to define/explain the funding measures outlined and other developments in the operation of the RAPID Programme.

The Members welcomed funding for Tuam. Mr. Ridge thanked Mr. Mahon for attending the meeting. He hoped substantial funding would be drawn down and he complimented the People in RAPID.

This concluded the Meeting.

Recorded by:
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY: _____

MAYOR



Paddy McHugh T.D.,
Shop Street,
Tuam,
Co. Galway.
Tel. (093) 26455
Fax. (093) 28419

DÁIL ÉIREANN
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH, 2.

Angela Holian,
Town Clerk,
Tuam Town Council,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
CO. Galway.

14th April 2004

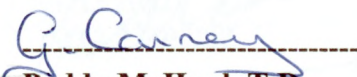
Re: Bus Shelter at Vicar Street.

Dear Angela,

I refer to the above and to my previous correspondence in relation to same.

I have again raised the matter with Bus Éireann and I now enclose for your information copy of reply, which I received from Jimmy Woolley, Area Manager in relation to the Bus Shelter at Vicar Street.

Yours faithfully,



Paddy McHugh T.D.



Bus Éireann

Bus Éireann - Irish Bus
Ceannt Stn., Galway
Stn. Éamoinn Ceannt, Gaillimh
Tel: (091) 563 555
Fax: (091) 566 230
Web: <http://www.buseireann.ie>

RE: Draft Regional Planning Guidelines

I refer to the above and note that the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines are on public display until the 26th April 2004.

In our initial submission we identified important issues both National and Regional that needed to be addressed in the Regional Planning Guidelines. These issues included:

(1) Identifying Tuam as a Hub Town and how the development of Tuam would affect South Mayo and parts of Roscommon. We also stressed the need to examine and address how the development of all Hubs would be managed within the region.

Mr. Paddy McHugh T.D.,
Shop Street,
Tuam,
Co. Galway.

(3) The importance of developing infrastructure for economic development to flourish. This includes the development of roads, public transport, and environmental conservation and enhancement.

8th April 2004.

Re Bus Shelter at Vicar Street Tuam

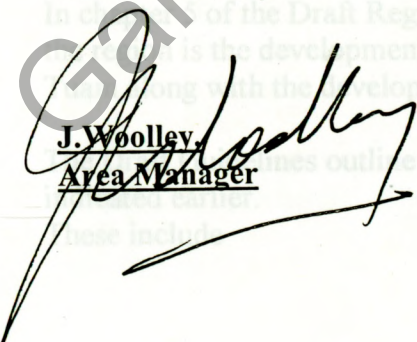
Dear Deputy McHugh,

I refer to your previous correspondence and your letter of 31st March regarding the provision of a Bus Shelter at above location.

Without prejudicing the current negotiations between Bus Éireann and the preferred tenderer, Bus Éireann has taken account of all requests received from Community Groups, Local Authorities, County Councils etc.

Bus Éireann are currently trying to ensure that the preferred tenderer will meet all of the requests for shelters in the present long and protracted negotiations which are proving difficult to conclude. However, as soon as I have any information regarding the Bus Shelter at Vicar Street I will contact you without delay.

Yours sincerely


J. Woolley,
Area Manager



**CIE Group of
Companies**

Directors

W Litley (Managing Director Stiúthóir Bhainistíochta)
P Cullen T Honan C Duggan

1

A Limited Company. Registered in Ireland at Broadstone, Dublin 7, No. 119570. VAT No. 4812850M.

RE: Draft Regional Planning Guidelines

I refer to the above and note that the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines are currently on public display until the 26th April 2004.

In our initial submission we identified important issues both Nationally and Regionally that needed to be addressed in the Regional Planning Guidelines.

These issues included:

- (1) Identifying Tuam as a Hub Town and how the development of Tuam would benefit North Galway, South Mayo and parts of Roscommon. We also stressed the need to examine and address how the development of all Hubs would progress within the region.
- (2) The need to create a counter-balance corridor along the N17/N18 axis to develop and promote the region.
- (3) The importance of developing infrastructure for economic development to flourish. This includes the development of roads, public transport, housing and environmental conservation and enhancement.

Within the current Draft Regional Planning Guidelines strategic goals have been outlined which will assist Tuam in its development.

These include:

‘To identify, formulate and implement policies that will promote the gateway Galway and Hubs Tuam and Castlebar/Ballina into achieving their targets and fulfil their role as set out in the N.S.S coupled with supporting a settlement strategy that will help to encourage the growth of towns and villages enabling, them to service their rural hinterland.’

This clearly includes a goal to put policies in place to encourage the growth of Tuam to a population of 15,000 – 20,000.

Other goals that will help in promoting Tuam include:

‘Promote a comprehensive range of public transport options’

‘Ensure that the telecommunication network in the region is upgraded extensively, so that it can attract additional investment’

To support a framework which incorporates a network of places creating a Western Developmental Corridor, which will enhance economic, social and environmental opportunities and will enable the western seaboard to compete successfully with other economic corridors thus benefiting the people of the whole region.

In chapter 5 of the Draft Regional Guidelines the strategic development recommended for the region is the development of a growing and attractive gateway and hubs including Tuam along with the development of smaller key centres

The Draft Guidelines outline the essential requirements for the attainment of the goals indicated earlier.

These include

- (a) The upgrading of the N17 Northwards and N18 Southwards with the combined N18 and N17 providing the North/South Corridor to promote growth.
- (b) It is of utmost importance that the provision of Broadband facilities is provided in the remaining hubs not already serviced namely Castlebar and Tuam.

On large-scale potential development for the region the Draft Guidelines include for some, which will help to promote and enhance Tuam. These include:

- (i) The reservation of a strategic economic corridor from Oranmore to Attymon paralleling the Galway Dublin rail line and 4km wide. This corridor will have a positive impact on Tuam.
- (ii) The development of the Corrib Gas field and distribution of same serving Tuam.
- (iii) The development of the Western Rail corridor.

The Draft Regional Guidelines deal with the NSS Gateway and Hub requirements. The needs requirement for Tuam as a hub include

- A Network/Piping need to be upgraded in the core urban area.
- B Out reach/third level research facilities are required to support potential investment in enterprise
- C Provision of healthcare service – local services for its rural hinterland. Acute services within easy access.
- D Investment in the retailing/commercial facilities
- E Provision of high quality hotel/leisure facilities
- F Revision of broadband facilities – Commuter rail service to and from Galway City and the regions
- G Commencement of the N17 scheme (new route)

A new Development Plan for the Town of Tuam is currently being prepared. Within the Regional Guidelines is a table of relevant data for the Tuam Hub and linked hubs of Castlebar and Ballina. This is produced here for information.

In summary for Tuam to develop as a Hub Town it is essential that there needs identified in the Draft Regional Guidelines are carried into the new Regional Guidelines and promoted. These include:

- (i) Promotion and development of the Western Economic Corridor.
- (ii) Develop infrastructure in and around Tuam to include roads (N17), Western Rail Corridor, Water and Surface Water development and telecommunications with broadband.
- (iii) Promote and develop I.D.A. technology parks with the town.
- (iv) Develop educational and healthcare services within the town.
- (v) Provide high quality hotel, leisure and recreational facilities in the town.
- (vi) Continue to invest in retail and commercial facilities within the town.

We should support the proposals within the Regional Planning Guidelines and press to have them implemented. The Regional Planning Guidelines should include for the further

implementation and development of the Hub Towns status as promoted by the National Spatial Strategy.

Galway County Council Archives

Project	RAPID Action	Lead Partner	Local Partner	Amount	Description	Category
Learning Co-ordination Service	GY-Tuam -078 (1036/03)	GRD	Education 'cluster' to be formed in Tuam	€215,000 (over 2 years)	Establishment of Learning Co-ordination Service and provision of supports to all education providers / students	A/B
Tuam Community Arts Programme	No specific Action ref (01-128-04)	Muinteras Na Noileain	Earwig Community Arts	€100,000	Development of Community Arts programme in Tuam	A
Travellers Horse Project	GY-Tuam - 030 (1216-04)	TTEDA	TTEDA	€290,480	Development of Horse / Stables Project	A
Access Tuam (incl Mill Stream Park)	GY-Tuam- 100 GY-Tuam-118	Galway County Council	Mill Stream Park Residents Assoc. / IWA	€288,000	Provision of Access works to Tuam town centre and Millstream Park area	A/C
Tuam Stadium Accessibility	GY-Tuam-019 (1576-04)	Tuam Stadium Association		€55,000	Provision of accessibility / pitch improvement works to Tuam Stadium	A / C
Tuam Scouts Hall Redevelopment	GY-Tuam-022 (2149-04)	Tuam Scouts		€110,000	Redevelopment of Scouts Hall.	A
Tuam Community Centre	No specific action ref.	TCDRC / Comm Centre Trustees	Gaelscoil	€1.5m	Complete renovation of existing community centre and incorporation of Youth Advice Café	A/B/C
Domestic Violence Support and Outreach Service	No specific action ref.	TCDRC		€58,284	Establishment of support service for Tuam and surrounding areas for those experiencing domestic violence	A
Mall Theatre	GY-Tuam-031 (1898-04)	Mall Theatre Company		c.€600,000	Renovations to Mall Theatre and employment of Manager	A / B
TOTAL				c.€3,216,764		

*hopeful
exceed at least
+ 3rd level*

Galway County Council

CONSULTATION

The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs intend to consult with local AIT's and County Development Boards in a series of regional meetings commencing in mid April to define / explain the funding measures outlined above and other developments in the operation of the RAPID Programme

5) DORMANT ACCOUNTS FUND

In 2002 the Government established the Dormant Accounts Funds Disbursement Board and agreed the plan for the initial distribution of funds under three broad categories as follows:

- Economic and Social Disadvantage
- Educational Disadvantage
- Persons with a Disability

X The Dormant Accounts Programme specifically targets RAPID, CLAR and DTF areas for prioritisation. The Programme is a potential major opportunity for RAPID areas. New legislation is being introduced that will mean practical changes to the way the Fund is administered. The implications for the AIT may possibly include:

- A greater role in determining local priorities
- Ensuring consistency with the RAPID plan
- Ensuring that local gaps identified in the plan can be met through the DAF
- Greater consultation with AIT's to link DAF with RAPID plan
- Possible allocation of funding per area. This will ensure that expectations as to the likely amount per area can be determined initially to avoid over expectation.

- The fund does not impinge on any other commitments made / secured by the Local Authority from own resources or for any applications to the Dormant Accounts Fund for playground development.
- Any Local Authority that does not take up the offer will loose out on the allocation and funds will be distributed elsewhere.
- Disadvantaged areas / estates within RAPID towns will be prioritised.

3. Sports Capital Programme

€1.5m is to be made available from the Department of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs to 'top-up' grant allocations to RAPID endorsed projects under the Sports Capital Programme 2004 on the following basis:

- Where an application from a RAPID area has been endorsed by the AIT and is successful in the 2004 round of SCP funding the project will receive an automatic 'top-up' to meet some of the gap between the amount requested and amount allocated. (80% is the maximum that can be funded under SCP)
- The project will receive an automatic 'top-up', no application is necessary
- The amount awarded will be dependant on the level of match funding already secured by the project and subject to a national allocation of €1.5m

Applications from Tuam 2004

Project	RAPID Action	Lead Partner	Amount	Submission
Dynamo Blues Clubhouse	GY-Tuam-050	Dynamo Blues FC	€170,000	Jan. '04
Tuam Scouts Hall Development	GY-Tuam-022	Tuam Scouts	€100,000	Jan '04
Tuam Stadium Floodlighting	GY-Tuam-019	Tuam Stadium Association	€370,000	Jan '04
Tuam Stars Clubhouse	GY-Tuam-120	Tuam Stars GAA	€350,000	Jan. '04
Tuam Rugby Club All-weather pitch / running track	GY-Tuam-020	Tuam Rugby Club	€96,000	Jan. '04
TOTAL			€1,086,000	

4 ADDITIONAL SCHEMES BEING CONSIDERED

1. Provision of funding for schools / after-schools clubs for catering equipment to provide school meals / breakfast clubs
2. Provision of funding for schools to develop outdoor facilities / play / sports areas. (similar to CLAR schools)



RAPID PROGRAMME LEVERAGE FUND 2004

The following measures will be available to RAPID areas in 2004 under the Leverage Fund process being initiated by the Department of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs. It is intended that these and other funding opportunities for RAPID areas will come on stream in 2004 and subsequent years.

1. Development of Open Spaces / Estate Enhancement

€2m has been secured alongside the Dept. of Environment, Heritage and Local Government under a scheme for Local Estate Enhancement. The fund will be available to each RAPID area on the following basis:

- The fund will be available to the relevant Local Authority for the area
- Works to include: landscaping, paving, boundary walls, development of open spaces (to reduce anti-social behaviour / visual improvement of run-down area)
- There must be a focus on disadvantaged areas within RAPID towns
- Fund will be allocated to each area by population count, subject to a maximum of **€50,000 per area**
- The Local Authority must contribute at least 10 % of the total cost.
- The scheme can not be used to fund an initiative that the Local Authority had planned to do in any case in 2004 (i.e. additionality)
- The RAPID Area Implementation Team will be involved in determining which area(s) will benefit and the type of project to be developed. Proposals can be forwarded to the Local Authority.
- Any Local Authority that does not take up the offer will lose out on the allocation and funds will be distributed elsewhere.
- Fund will be available for allocation in 2004.

2. Development of Playgrounds

€3m has been secured alongside the Department of Health & Children for the development of play facilities in RAPID areas on the following basis:

- Fund to be used for the development of new play facilities or refurbishment of existing facilities.
- All works to be agreed by the Local Authority in consultation with the Area Implementation Team. The AIT can determine possible area/s for development and make proposals to the Local Authority.
- 100 % of the cost will be available subject to a maximum allocation of **€90,000 per area** (depending on area population)

Tuam Town Council

Telephone: (093)24246

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam.

14th April, 2004

To each Member of Tuam Town Council

A Chara,

The Special meeting of Tuam Town Council will be held in the Town Hall on Monday 19th April, 2004 at 7.00 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angela Holan Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Draft Regional Planning Guidelines

Rapid Programme Leverage Fund 2004

Letter from Mrs. P. Mc Hugh. J.D.
Set date for next meeting - 10th May? Yes

REMINDER: Civic Reception for
Ms. Mary Harney, T. D.,
Tainiste and Minister for Enterprise
On Friday 16th April, 2004
At 7 p.m. in the Town Hall

Presentation to Mr. Donal O'Donoghue, County Manager:

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday, 5th April, 2004

Present: Mayor Councillor M. Ward

Councillors: G. Joyce, M. Kelly, T. Reilly, P. O'Grady,
P. McHugh, G. Browne-Lane, P. Warren, C. Keaveney.

Officials:

**Mr. Paul Ridge, Director of Services,
Mr. Donal O'Donoghue, County Manager
Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk**

The Prayer was recited.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the March Meeting were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Kelly.

Presentation to Mr. Donal O'Donoghue, County Manager:

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Donal O'Donoghue, County Manager to the meeting. Making a presentation to Mr. O'Donoghue on the occasion of his retirement the Mayor said Mr. O'Donoghue is a great loss to Tuam and Galway. He said Mr. O'Donoghue left a huge legacy and on behalf of the Members of Tuam Town Council wished him a long and healthy retirement.

Mr. O'Donoghue thanked the Members. He said it was forty-two years since he joined the Local Government Service. He paid tribute to the Members of Local Authorities over the years and the important role Local Government plays in the planning and implementation of quality services. He said Tuam is well equipped, water, wastewater, recreational facilities etc. - Urban Renewal and Hub Status designation. He said he was particularly interested in the Town Hall, the seat of Local Government, and was glad to leave with this project in place also the turning of the sod for the new Pool. He thanked the Director of Service, Mr. Ridge, the Town Engineer, the Town Clerk and wished the town and the Councilor's the very best, also the members going forward for Local Elections in June.

Mr. Ridge joined with the Mayor and Members in wishing Mr. O'Donoghue and his Family a happy retirement.

The Mayor welcomed Supt. Martin Lee to the meeting.

Matters arising from Minutes:

Traffic Management Plan: Replying to Councillor Browne-Lane regarding the notice of Road Closure in the Local Newspapers the Town Engineer said that the notice applied to Abbey Trinity from the junction at Cosmo to the N17. Councillor Browne-Lane said she was hugely concerned that the Pedestrian Crossing at the Square was being impeded and obscured by vehicles parking and unloading. The situation has not improved since it was last raised. She also said delivery trucks continue to block the Lane at odd times. The Town Engineer said he would request the Community Wardens to monitor the area more closely.

Replying to Councillor O'Grady regarding installation of parking meters the Town Engineer said work will begin on the Tuesday after Easter. The system should be up and running by the end of May. Replying to Councillor Reilly the Town Engineer said parking permits would be available for Residents. Parking for the disabled will be provided.

Replying to Councillors Kelly and Reilly regarding the N17/Abbey Trinity Road the Town Engineer said the long-term plan is the installation of a Pedestrian Crossing with traffic lights at the junction with the new road. He said it would be a number of weeks before the new road through Abbey Trinity will be "taken in charge".

Replying to Councillor Browne-Lane Mr. Ridge said the riverside walk will be closed temporarily but will be developed and enhanced.

Councillor Keaveney asked that the Harry Finnegan Walk plaque be erected.

Councillor O'Grady asked that the double yellow lines on the Bridge at Shop Street be removed to provide a parking space adjacent to a Doctors surgery. The Town Engineer agreed to look at the overall plan and see if additional parking can be provided.

Replying to Councillor Warren regarding the Athenry Road/Dublin Road junction the Town Engineer agreed to look at the matter also the Vicar Street/Sean Purcell Road junction.

Councillor Reilly asked that a loading bay be provided outside M & T's on High Street. Mr. Ridge said he would ask the roads and Transportation Director to advise and get a report for the next meeting.

Supt. Lee said he thought the situation had improved at the pedestrian crossing at the Square but would take the matter on board again. He said Galway County Council notify the Gardai when roads are being closed, delivery trucks can't block a road. The Gardai can deal with delivery trucks. He agreed there was a difficulty for Pedestrians crossing the road at Abbey Trinity/N17 and noted the Town Engineer's statement that Traffic lights will be installed with the development of the Tuam Retail Centre, which is due to be completed this year.

Swimming Pool: The Mayor stated that he was unable to source the funding for a feasibility study. Councillor Kelly said the Old Community Centre, part of which is derelict, would be more suitable for development also there were properties on Dublin Road. He said Organisations in the town should come up with a Plan. Mr. Ridge said this was sensible and Galway County Council would assist.

The Shambles: Replying to Deputy McHugh Mr. Ridge said (70,000.00 had been allocated for refurbishment work at the Shambles, the work will be carried out this year. Regarding the Link from the Shambles to the Mall the legal process is very slow.

The following letters were read, noted and agreed

Letter dated 10th March, 2004 from Mr. Clivius Chynoweth, Mayor, Mayo and Secretary, Wigan Town Council - read

Teample Jarlath: Replying to Councillor Keaveney the Town Engineer said he was unaware Teample Jarlath was closed but would investigate. Councillor Kelly said he had received numerous complaints about the wooden Structure and Councillor Browne-Lane proposed that it be removed. Mr. Ridge acknowledged the Members opposition to the feature but said it draws attention to Teample Jarlath. He said Pedestrians will have to have priority and a pedestrian core would be put through the centre of the town. He said Tuam has a solid urban structure. When Galway County Council develop their new offices at High Street the relationship between St. Mary's Cathedral and Teample Jarlath will be enhanced.

Action Tuam The Mayor said it appears membership of the Board of Action Tuam is not open to the Town Council. Councillor O'Grady, who commended Action Tuam on the work they are doing, said the Town Council would be badly served by a member only attending at Annual Meetings - in earlier years Action Tuam was an offshoot of the Town Council. Councillor Keaveney said it was important to establish the facts, he proposed that the Town Council seek the "Memorandum and Articles" from the Company Registration Office.

Managers Business:

Mr. Ridge circulated copies of the Draft Regional Planning Guidelines. It was proposed by Councillor Reilly, seconded by the Mayor and agreed to hold a special meeting on Monday 19th April, 2004.

Mr. Ridge circulated a list of projects regarding the Rapid Programme Leverage Fund 2004. It was proposed by Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor O'Grady and agreed to invite Mr. Dermot Mahon, Rapid Co-Ordinator to the special meeting on the 19th April, 2004.

Correspondence:

The following letters were read, noted and agreed:

Letter dated 10th March, 2004 from Ms. Christine Charnock-Jones, Mayoral Secretary, Wigan Town Council – read.

Letter dated 21st March, 2004 from Maurice J. Laheen re: meeting with the Mayor of Wigan – read.

Letter dated 15th March, 2004 from Mayo County Council – read.

Letter dated 15th March, 2004 from Dr. Sheelah Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, Western Health Board re: "The Grove Hospital" was read. It was proposed by Deputy McHugh and seconded by Councillor Reilly to write to the Chairperson, Western Health Board. Replying to Councillor Kelly Mr. Ridge said negotiations regarding provision of a car park at the grove are at an advanced stage.

Letter dated 12th March, 2004 from Nuclear Free Local Authorities Secretariat – read.

Letter dated 28th March, 2004 from Mr. Willie Kiefel, Chairman, Tuam/Straubing Twinning Committee. It was proposed by Councillor Keaveney, seconded by Councillor O'Grady and agreed to invite Mr. Kiefel to the next monthly meeting.

Notice of Conference – Transport Strategy for Galway Region. It was agreed that Councillor Kelly attend the conference.

Notices of Motion:

(1) Councillor Browne-Lane spoke on her motion regarding reducing services at Tuam Town Civic Amenity Centre. She said the elected Representatives in Tuam were not informed of the decision taken by Galway County Council to reduce/close the Centre. She said the Centre was extensively used. Councillor O'Grady said, that at a meeting held two weeks ago, a decision had been taken to defer the closure for a month. Deputy McHugh told the Members the matter was referred back to the S.P.C. where the original decision was taken. The matter will be re-assessed at S.P.C. meeting to be held on 20th April, 2004. Councillor Reilly also spoke on his motion regarding the Civic Amenity Centre (4). It was proposed by Councillor Kelly seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that Tuam Town Council call on Galway County Council to rescind the decision to reduce/close the Civic Amenity Centre.

Mr. Ridge said there was no attempt to keep information from the Town Council. There was no proposal to close the Amenity Centre, what is proposed is to end the acceptance of unsegregated domestic waste at the centre.

There was unanimous support for both notices of motion.

(2) Councillor Kelly spoke on his motion regarding Bus Shelter at Vicar Street and he called on Galway County Council to have same erected immediately.

There was unanimous support for the motion.

(3) Councillor Kelly called on Galway County Council to locate public toilets in Tuam immediately.

There was unanimous support for the motion.

This concluded the meeting.

Recorded by,
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY: Maoli Ward

MAYOR

Tuam Town Council

Telephone: (093)24246

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam.

31st March, 2004

To each Member of Tuam Town Council

A Chara,

The Monthly meeting of Tuam Town Council will be held in the Town Hall on Monday 5th April, 2004 at 7.00 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

A. Holian Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Mayoral Ball – subcommittee meeting at 6.30 p.m.

Minutes

Manager's Business

Correspondence

U. D. C. Status

The Grove Hospital

Mayoral Ball

An Post

Action Tuam

Notice of Motion: Councillor Browne-Lane

"I propose that this council demand a better standard of communication from Galway County Council regarding decisions made for Tuam. In particular I refer to the decision made to reduce the services at Tuam Town Civic Amenity Centre".

Special Meeting held on Friday 19th March 2004

Notices of Motion: Councillor Kelly

"I propose that Tuam Town Council request Galway County Council to have the Bus Shelter at the Vicar Street bus-stop installed immediately".

"I propose that Tuam Town Council deplore the long delay by Galway County Council in locating public toilets in the town and call for the immediate installation of same".

Mayor Ward, Councillor's Keaveney, W. J. Browne-Lane, L. Kelly and O'Grady

Notices of Motion: Councillor Reilly

"I propose that Galway County Council take on board the decision, proposed and seconded, at Tuam Town Council meeting held on 9-3-04 regarding the closure of the Tuam Amenity Centre

and been decided by Galway County Council at a meeting held in February, 2004. It was acknowledged that at a County Council Tuam Area Committee meeting held that morning the decision to close the centre had been referred to the Council. Councillor O'Grady had requested that the Tuam Area Committee meeting be held in Tuam concerning and also that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be allowed to attend on behalf of the Board. It was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that the decision regarding the closure of the Civic Amenity Centre be made permanent. It was also proposed by Councillor Keaveney, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that people on fixed incomes be subsidised by Galway County Council.

Recorded by:

Angela Holina,

Town Clerk

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Special Meeting held on Friday 19th March, 2004

Re:

Civic Amenity Centre

Attendance: Mayor Ward, Councilor's Keaveney, Warren, Browne-Lane, Kelly, Reilly and O'Grady

The Members expressed outrage at the proposed closure of the Civic Amenity Centre. The Town Council had not being informed that a decision to close the centre had been approved at a County Council Area Committee meeting before Christmas, and the closure had been approved by Galway County Council at a meeting held in February, 2004. They acknowledged that at a County Council/Tuam Area Committee meeting held that morning the decision to close the centre had been deferred for four weeks.

Councillor O'Grady stated that he had requested that the Tuam Area Committee meeting be held in Tuam that morning and also that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be allowed to attend on behalf of the Board.

It was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that the decision to postpone the closure of the Civic Amenity Centre be made permanent. It was proposed by Councillor Keaveney, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that People on fixed incomes be subsidised by Galway county Council.

Recorded by:

**Angela Holian,
Town Clerk**

Tuam Town Council

Minutes of Special Meeting held on Tuesday 9th March, 2004

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Ward

**Councillors: M. Kelly, G. Browne-Lane, T. Reilly,
C. Keaveney, P. O'Grady.**

Officials:

Mr. Paul Ridge, Director of Services

Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer

Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk

Apology

Councillor Joyce, Councillor Warren

The Prayer was recited.

The Meeting was called to agree a protocol for the letting of the Town Hall also a date for the official opening of the building.

It was agreed that People wanting to use the building should give six-week notice, the applications to be discussed at a sub-committee meeting prior to each monthly meeting.

It was agreed a Caretaker be appointed by Galway County Council.

It was agreed that a sub-committee meeting, to discuss applications to use the Town Hall, be held prior to each monthly meeting.

It was agreed that a fee of €20.00 per hour be charged from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday and €30.00 per hour be charged after 5pm.

Regarding electric wires across the front of the Town Hall Mr. Ridge agreed to write to the Person involved again.

It was agreed to allow the Old Tuam Society use the Town Hall on Saturday 13th March to launch a C. D. by the Group Maighe Sheola.

Regarding the Civic Amenity Centre it was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that the closure be deferred. Mr. Ridge reminded the Members the meeting was called to decide on the letting of the Town. He said he would arrange for a person from the Environmental Section to come to the next meeting of the Board.

Regarding the Mayoral Ball, to be held on 14th May, 2004, it was agreed a sub-committee meeting would be held at 6.30 p.m. prior to the next meeting.

This concluded the Meeting.

Recorded by:
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY: Marlin Ward

MAYOR

Matters arising from Minutes:

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday, 1st March, 2004

Present: Mayor Councillor M. Ward

**Councillors: M. Kelly, T. Reilly, G. Joyce, P. O'Grady,
P. McHugh, G. Browne-Lane, C. Keaveney.**

Officials:

**Mr. Paul Ridge, Director of Services,
Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk**

Apology: Councillor Warren

The Prayer was recited.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the February Meeting were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor O'Grady.

Matters arising from Minutes:

Bus Shelter: Replying to Councillor Kelly Mr. Ridge said he would contact Mr. Quinn again.

Toilets Replying to Councillor Reilly Mr. Ridge said the planning process is under way. It is planned to order the toilet by May. Regarding toilets at the Church grounds Councillor O'Grady stated that he had contacted the Administrator and will be discussing the matter with him. Councillor Kelly asked that the provision of toilets at the station be investigated.

Traffic Management Plan: Replying to Councillor Reilly regarding parking Mr. Ridge said a lot of progress has been made. It is hoped to bring discussions with the Western Health Board to a successful conclusion in a matter of weeks.

Councillor Browne-Lane said her request to have prior notice of the closure of the Lane has not been taken seriously. She continues to receive complaints from People and Businesses in the area.

Councillor Joyce told the Board of a Person who had parked on High Street, left an elderly relative who had just been to the doctor's surgery in the car while she collected a prescription from the chemist's, had received a parking ticket. She asked that the Traffic Wardens be lenient in cases such as this.

Deputy McHugh told the Members that parking issues had been discussed at the Tuam Electrical Area Committee meeting. Officials had been asked to come forward with alternate arrangements. He acknowledged the amount of development taking place in Tuam and the inconvenience caused to people but said the town will be a different place in a year's time.

Councillor Keaveney said Tuam is pro-development but advance notice of road closure would be a convenience.

Replying Mr. Ridge said the development going ahead is very welcome and is driven by tax schemes. He said People should be informed of road closure. The Lane, which is ideally suited for pedestrianisation, will have to be closed also there will be no passage through Abbey Trinity for twelve months. Galway County Council have been in discussion with the Developers with a view to minimise inconvenience. He said he sympathised with People who are inconvenienced but when the work is complete there will be a 400-car carpark

It was agreed to invite Supt. Martin Lee to the next meeting.

Person of the Year: It was agreed to hold the function on Monday 5th April at 9 p.m. following the monthly meeting.

Footpaths: Councillor Reilly thanked the Town Engineer for responding to the requests to adjust the footpaths to facilitate People with disabilities. Councillor O'Grady asked that four semi-mature trees be planted at the Square. Replying to Councillor O'Grady regarding lights removed from Abby Trinity, Mr. Ridge said the lights will definitely be erected in the town centre and over the next few months to it is planned to consider ways to enhance the town to reflect its status as a Hub-Town. It was proposed by Councillor Browne-Lane and seconded by Councillor Keaveney that courtesy parking spaces be provided at the Square, also adjacent to Doctor's surgeries. Replying to Councillor Keaveney Mr. Ridge said there is a limited fund for footpaths. Replying to Deputy McHugh regarding the link from the Shambles to the Mall Mr. Ridge said he would pursue the matter. Deputy McHugh asked that the original plan for the refurbishment of the Shambles be considered again.

Swimming Pool: Replying to Councillor Reilly regarding converting the old swimming pool to a community centre Mr. Ridge said the building is not amenable for further use and it was planned to knock the building. It was proposed by the Mayor and seconded by Councillor Reilly that a feasibility study be prepared. It was suggested by the Mayor that he would seek funding for a feasibility study from an alternative source. Mr. Ridge said he had no objection to this approach.

The Grove Hospital: Deputy McHugh told the Members that during a debate in the Dail the Minister for State said a decision on the Grove Hospital will be made in the next twelve to fourteen weeks. The Department will be guided by the Western Health Board. It was proposed by Deputy McHugh and seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that the Town Council seek an urgent meeting with the Western Health Board.

Managers Business:

Mr. Ridge informed the Members that the contract for the new swimming pool in Tuam has been adopted by Galway County Council and will be signed in the coming week. The Pool should be ready for use in September 2005. The Members acknowledged the input of Galway County Council, Mr. Paul Ridge, Director of Services and all involved in the project.

Correspondence:

The following letters were read, noted and agreed:

Letter dated 6th February, 2004 from Office of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government – read.

Letter dated 12th February, 2004 from Galway City Council. There was unanimous support for the following Motion:

“That Galway City Council call on the Government to take all necessary steps to introduce an access certification process for buildings”.

Letter dated February, 2004 re: NASC – One day Conference – read.

Letter dated February, 2004 re: Border, Midland & Western Regional Assembly Conference - read.

Letter dated February, 2004 from Irish Public bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd. It was agreed that Councillor Keaveney represent the Board at the 78th Ordinary General Meeting of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd.

Letter dated 4th February, 2004 from Councillor Martin Morgan, Lord Mayor of Belfast – read.

Letter dated 17th February, 2004 from Kilkee Town Council. There was unanimous support for the following motion:

“That Local Authorities throughout Ireland inform themselves of the implications of implementation of the next round of the Hanley Report for their communities, and if averse to the implications, that these Councils join with others similarly affected to oppose the elements of democratic deficit inherent in the report”.

Letter dated 18th February, 2004 from office of the Minister for Health and Children – noted.

Letter dated 17th February, 2004 from Mr. Jim McGovern, Director, The West Regional Authority. Mr. Ridge undertook to have a copy of “Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Planning guidelines – West Region” circulated to each Member.

Letter dated 9th March, 2004 from Mr. Pat O’Hora, President, Old Tuam Society. It was proposed by Councillor Keaveney and seconded by the Mayor that the Old Tuam Society be given the use of the Town Hall for the launch of a C.D. recorded by “Maighe Sheola”.

U. D. C. Status:

Mr. Ridge told the Members a final decision has not be made. It was important that tuam looks at the regional guidelines. A submission should come from the Town Council.

Tuam Youth Café:

Regarding the Deputation to the February meeting Mr. Ridge said the concept of a Youth Café is desirable but the Town Hall is a civic building and is not available. He said Galway County Council intend to use the ground floor which will cater for the Housing Liaison Officer, Revenue Collector and Community Wardens. He said the Town Clerk's Office and Council Chamber will occupy the 1st Floor. It was agreed hold a special meeting on Tuesday 9th March, 2004 to discuss use of the Town Hall.

Mayoral Ball:

It was agreed to discuss the Mayoral Ball at meeting to be held on Tuesday 9th March.

Action Tuam:

Councillor O'Grady told the Members he had been informed by Action Tuam that his role as a Director of Action Tuam, nominated by the Town Council, was limited to attending Annual Meetings. He felt it was important that he attend every meeting as was previously the case. The Members agreed they were unaware of a change of rule and the Clerk was instructed to write to Action Tuam to seek clarification.

An Post:

The Mayor stated that the situation regarding An Post is serious. Councillor Keaveney said there was no formal dispute but An Post are deliberately holding post and running a misleading campaign which could escalate into a dispute. Councillor McHugh said there had been a problem regarding accommodation, he had contacted An Post and had sent a reply to the workers today. He said he would like to see the response of workers to the claims of Management. The Mayor agreed to contact the President, Chamber of Commerce in the morning.

Retirement of Mr. D. O'Donoghue, County Manager:

It was proposed by Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that a presentation be made to Mr. O'Donoghue, County Manager on his retirement, the presentation to coincide with the official opening of the Town Hall. Mr. Ridge agreed to come back with a date.

This concluded the meeting.

Recorded by,
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY: _____
MAYOR