

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Meeting held on Monday, 25th June, 2007

Present: Mayor: Councillor Flanagan – outgoing

**Councillors: T. McHugh, M. Ward, A. O'Donnell-Brady,
T. Reilly, P. Warren, P. O'Grady, I. Kelly, G. Browne-Lane.**

Officials:

**Mr. Frank Gilmore, Director of Services
Mr. Peter Gavin, Town Engineer
Mr. John Leahy, Executive Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk**

The Prayer was recited.

Election of Mayor:

The outgoing Mayor thanked everybody for their co-operation during the year. She thanked the Deputy Mayor, the Board Members, Mr. Frank Gilmore, Director of Services, Mr. Peter Gavin, Town Engineer, Mr. Stephen Lally, former Town Engineer, the Town Clerk and the Press for their support during the year. She thanked her Parents, family and friends, the People of Tuam and the Fine Gael Party for their continued support.

The outgoing Mayor said she had enjoyed a very busy year and had been delighted to visit Straubing and hopes the twinning will continue to flourish. She welcomed the inauguration of the Joint Policing Committee and the installation of CCTV. She said she would have loved to have presided over the opening of the Hospital, the rail-track, the court house and the by-pass and looks forward to the provision of these services.

The death of Councillor Miko Kelly, RIP had been a great loss both to the Town Council and the town of Tuam and she was honored, prior to the meeting, to have planted a tree in his memory at Palace Grounds.

She then invited nominations for the position of Mayor. It was proposed by Councillor O'Grady and seconded by Councillor Warren that Councillor Ward be elected to hold the office of Mayor of the Town of Tuam for the coming year. There being no other proposal Councillor Ward was elected. Councillor Ward took the Chair. He thanked his proposer and seconder. He congratulated the outgoing Mayor on an excellent year. He said he looked forward to the challenge ahead. He would like to see progress on the Community Hospital and believes it is not 'if' but 'when' a positive announcement will be made. He intended to highlight the railway and acknowledged the work of "West on track". He said a refurbishment scheme for the park at the back of Dublin Road houses would go ahead shortly. He said Tuam is developing at an unprecedented pace, with major housing developments and increased Population but the lack of a major employer and infrastructure such as Broadband, Shops, Road/By-pass etc. are of concern. He proposed that the Board seek a meeting with the I.D.A. regarding the Business Park at Dunmore Road. He welcomed the water/waste water scheme which will start next year. He said he was particularly concerned with alcohol abuse and anti-social behaviour in the town and would be working with everyone involved in tackling these issues.

Election of Deputy Mayor:

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor. It was proposed by Councillor Reilly and seconded by Councillor Flanagan that Councillor Warren be elected Deputy Mayor of the Town of Tuam for the coming year. There being no other proposal Councillor Warren was elected. Councillor Warren thanked his proposer and seconder. He complemented the Mayor on his election and paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor.

The Manager and Members congratulated the Mayor and paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor.

This concluded the meeting.

Recorded by:
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY _____

MAYOR

Circular Fin 8/07

25 April, 2007.

**Commencement of Business Improvement Districts Legislation
and Making of Ratepayer Plebiscite Regulations**

A chara,

I wish to inform you that, with effect from 24 April, 2007, the provisions of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 relating to the establishment of Business Improvement Districts Schemes have been commenced and associated Ratepayer Plebiscite Regulations have been made. A copy of each of these documents is attached.

Background

The Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006, enacted on the 24 December 2006, provides, inter-alia, for the operation of Business Improvement District Schemes, or BIDS as they are more commonly known. The Act is available on the Department's website at www.environ.ie. and from the Oireachtas website at www.oireachtas.ie.

In summary, a BID scheme is an organisational and financing mechanism, through which the business community can develop and implement projects, services or works in defined areas to improve those areas for the betterment of the local environment. Before a BID

scheme can proceed it requires the holding of a ratepayer plebiscite, the support of a majority of ratepayers and the approval of the rating authority. A BID scheme is financed by contributions from the ratepayers in the area.

A note on the BIDS provisions of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 is at **Appendix 1**.

Appendix 2 summarises the arrangements for the holding of a ratepayer plebiscite contained in the attached Ratepayer Plebiscite Regulations.

Queries

Queries arising from this circular may be addressed to John Jordan, Local Government Finance Section at 01 8882998; email john_jordan@environ.irlgov.ie

Yours sincerely,



Frank Gallagher,
Principal Officer,
Local Government Finance Section.

To: County/City Managers, Heads of Finance, Town Clerks.

Appendix 1

Overview of BIDS

Background

Originating in Toronto, Canada in 1971, business improvement district schemes (BIDs) are now in operation in many cities and towns throughout the world. It is estimated that more than 400 BID type schemes are currently in operation in Canada and the United States of America. BID schemes are also becoming increasingly popular in Europe.

Essentially, in a BID scheme, a group of businesses come together and decide firstly that they want enhanced services or a wider range of services, or new facilities or activities in an area. Secondly, these businesses decide that they are willing to pay for such services, facilities or activities. A specially established BID company is charged with responsibility for implementing the provisions of the BID scheme. The local authority plays a key role in any such company. In addition, the local authority collects the annual BID contributions that fund the scheme.

BID Proposal

Section 129C provides that persons wishing to have a business improvement district scheme established must submit a proposal to the local authority for approval. The section sets out in detail the elements that must form part of a BID proposal. These include

- the boundary of the proposed BID area;
- a description of the objectives to be achieved under the scheme;
- a detailed description of the scheme itself specifying each project, service and work to be carried out or provided;
- the timeframe for operation of the scheme;
- details of the BID company which would be responsible for administering and managing the scheme;
- details of the current level of services being provided by the local authority; and
- details of the income and expenditure for the scheme.

In addition, the proposal must include a current list of each rateable property in the proposed BID area. In practice, the development of a BID proposal will require the BID proponents and the local authority to work together in a partnership approach.

Consultation

A key to the ultimate success of any BID proposal will be the extent to which there is meaningful engagement with the public and business community in an area. The Act sets out a framework for such comprehensive consultation. In the first instance, a BID proposal submitted to a local authority must be made available for public inspection under section 129D.

Following publication of a BID proposal, the local authority must, by way of public notice, invite submissions from the public on the proposal under section 129E. If following consideration of the submissions received, the local authority is of the opinion that the BID proposal may be inconsistent with the interests of the local community, it must notify the BID proponents of the nature of the inconsistency.

Where the local authority notifies the BID proponents that there may be inconsistency with local community interests, this would represent a clear signal that the BID proposal needs to be reviewed. Where any BID proposal is withdrawn or deemed to be withdrawn under section 129F, the BID proponents will be liable for all costs incurred by the local authority in relation to the proposal.

Ratepayer Plebiscite

Section 129G provides for the holding of a plebiscite to determine the level of support for the BID proposal among ratepayers in the area. The financing of a BID scheme is a matter for the ratepayers and will involve the payment of an annual contribution by each ratepayer in a BID area.

The ratepayer plebiscite will be organised by the local authority and conducted in accordance with the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts Ratepayer Plebiscite) Regulations 2007. In the BID plebiscite, each business will have one vote.

A majority of the ratepayers who vote in a plebiscite must vote in favour before a local authority can approve a BID scheme.

Rating Authority Approval

Section 129B provides that a rating authority may, by resolution, approve a BID scheme where the scheme is for the benefit of the business improvement district and those who live, work or carry out an activity in it and where the projects, works or service are in addition to and not instead of any project, service or work carried out or provided by the rating authority immediately prior to the approval of the scheme. A rating authority may not approve a

scheme unless it is to operate for at least a year, the consultation with the public has taken place, a majority in a ratepayer plebiscite voted in favour of the proposed scheme and the rating authority is of the opinion that the scheme does not conflict in a material way with the interests of the local community.

BID Company

Section 129I provides that a BID company will be responsible for implementing and managing a BID scheme. The board of directors will be made up of businesses or their representatives and nominees of the local authority. At least two-thirds of the directors must be ratepayers or ratepayer representatives. The Act provides that where the board consists of less than 13 members, one will be selected by the elected council and one by the manager. Where the board consists of 13 members or more, two will be selected by the elected council and two by the manager.

BID Contribution Levy

The BID company adopts a budget which sets out an estimated income and expenditure for the forthcoming year. The amount of the levy on any individual business is determined by the rateable valuation of that business and the income necessary to be raised in the BID area. The local authority collects a BID contribution levy from each ratepayer in the BIDS area.

The Act provides for relief of 50% in the amount of the levy where a property is unoccupied (section 129N) or where the property is destroyed or demolished (section 129O) and for the re-calculation of a levy where a rateable valuation is amended (section 129P).

Termination of BID Schemes

Sections 129S and 129T sets out provisions relating to the termination of BID schemes by a rating authority or a BID company and the associated final accounting arrangements.

Appendix 2

Ratepayer Plebiscite Regulations

Summary of Main Provisions

- Local authority appoints a returning officer (article 4).
- The returning officer compiles a list of each rateable property in the proposed business improvement district; this list will constitute the electoral roll for the plebiscite (article 6).
- The form of ballot paper is prescribed (article 7 and Schedule 1).
- Each ballot paper shall be numbered and marked with an official mark (article 8).
- Ballot papers shall be posted in the presence of the Cathaoirleach or such other member or members of the rating authority as may be authorised to witness such posting (article 9).
- Standard provisions in relation to invalid ballot papers are set out in article 16.
- Article 19 provides for the counting of ballot papers following rejection of any invalid ballot papers.
- Article 20 provides for declaration of the result of the plebiscite in the form set out in Schedule 2.
- Article 22 provides that the returning officer shall take all proper precautions for the security of the ballot papers and other documents relating to the plebiscite.



STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 165 of 2007

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS)
ACT 2006 (COMMENCEMENT) ORDER 2007

(Prn. A7/0828)

Galway County Council Archives

S.I. No. 165 of 2007

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS)
ACT 2006 (COMMENCEMENT) ORDER 2007

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 9(4) of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 (No. 42 of 2006) hereby orders as follows—

1. This Order may be cited as the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 (Commencement) Order 2007.

2. The day fixed, on which sections 2, 3 and 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 come into operation, is 24 April 2007.

L.S.

GIVEN under my Official Seal,
24 April 2007

DICK ROCHE

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local
Government

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation).

This Order commences sections 2, 3 and 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 which provides a statutory basis for the establishment of a business improvement district.

*Notice of the making of this Statutory Instrument was published in
"Iris Oifigiúil" of 27th April, 2007.*

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nó tríd an bpost ó
FOILSEACHÁIN RIALTAIS, AN RANNÓG POST-TRÁCHTA,
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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 166 of 2007

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS
RATEPAYER PLEBISCITE) REGULATIONS 2007

(Prn. A7/0829)

Galway County Council Archives

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS
RATEPAYER PLEBISCITE) REGULATIONS 2007

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 4 and 129G (6) (as inserted by section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 (No. 42 of 2006)) of the Local Government Act 2001 (No. 37 of 2001) hereby makes the following Regulations—

Citation.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts Ratepayer Plebiscite) Regulations 2007.

Commencement.

2. These Regulations shall come into operation on 24 April 2007.

Interpretation.

3. (1) In these Regulations—

“the Act” means the Local Government Act 2001.

(2) In these Regulations, any reference to—

(a) a Schedule or article which is not otherwise identified is a reference to a Schedule or article of these Regulations, or

(b) a sub-article or paragraph which is not otherwise identified is a reference to a sub-article or paragraph of the provision in which the reference occurs.

Ratepayer Plebiscite

4. Following receipt by a rating authority of written confirmation from a BID proponent under section 129F(2)(a) of the Act, the manager of the rating authority concerned shall appoint a local authority employee to be a returning officer for the purposes of the ratepayer plebiscite.

5. The returning officer shall be responsible for the proper administration of the plebiscite.

6. (1) The returning officer shall compile a list of each rateable property in the proposed business improvement district and the name and the billing address of the ratepayer in respect of each such property.

(2) A list prepared under sub-article (1) shall constitute the electoral roll for the plebiscite.

*Notice of the making of this Statutory Instrument was published in
“Iris Oifigiúil” of 27th April, 2007.*

(3) Each rateable property in the electoral roll shall be numbered consecutively.

(4) Subject to section 129G(1) of the Act, the returning officer shall fix the last day and hour for receiving completed ballot papers.

7. The ballot paper shall be in the form set out in Schedule 1.

8. (1) Every ballot paper shall have a counterfoil attached thereto.

(2) Every ballot paper shall, at the time of the issue thereof, be marked with an official mark, which shall be embossed or perforated so as to be visible on both sides of the paper and the number on the electoral roll of the ratepayer to whom it is being issued shall be entered on the ballot paper and the counterfoil.

(3) A mark shall be placed in a copy of the electoral roll opposite the number of the ratepayer to denote that the number referred to in sub-article (2) has been entered on the ballot paper and the counterfoil.

(4) The counterfoil shall be detached from the ballot paper before it is issued and shall be retained by the returning officer.

9. (1) In issuing ballot papers in accordance with section 129G(5) of the Act, the returning officer shall issue with each such ballot paper a postage-prepaid envelope addressed to the returning officer.

(2) The returning officer shall post the ballot papers in the presence of the Cathaoirleach or such other member or members of the rating authority as may be authorised by that authority to witness such posting.

(3) Where an envelope containing a ballot paper and postage-prepaid envelope referred to in sub-article (1) is, before the closing day of the plebiscite, returned to the returning officer as not having been delivered to the relevant ratepayer, the returning officer may readdress the envelope and send it by post to that voter.

10. The returning officer shall provide a ballot box for the reception of ballot papers returned by ratepayers.

11. The returning officer shall, immediately on receipt of postage-prepaid envelopes, place them unopened in the ballot box provided in accordance with article 10.

12. If the returning officer receives, before the close of the ballot, an envelope other than a postage-prepaid envelope and finds therein a ballot paper which would have been appropriate to send to him/her in a postage-prepaid envelope, he/she shall—

(a) securely close the envelope,

(b) endorse thereon, and sign, a statement that the envelope has been closed by him/her with the contents intact,

(c) place the closed envelope in the ballot box provided by him/her, and

(d) thereafter treat the envelope as a postage-prepaid envelope.

13. Any ballot paper received by the returning officer after the hour on the last day fixed for receipt thereof shall not be placed in the ballot box.

14. As soon as practicable after the hour on the last day fixed for the receipt of ballot papers, the returning officer shall open the ballot box in the presence of the Cathaoirleach or such other member or members of the rating authority as may be authorised by that authority to attend at the opening of the ballot box.

15. When the ballot box has been opened, the returning officer shall do the following—

(a) take all the envelopes out of the ballot box,

(b) open the envelopes and count and note the number of ballot papers received, and

(c) compare the details on each ballot paper against the relevant entry on the electoral roll.

16. A ballot paper—

(a) which does not bear the official mark, or

(b) on which the mark “x” or any other mark which, in the opinion of the returning officer, clearly indicates a vote, is not placed at all or is not so placed as to indicate a vote in favour or a vote against the BID proposal, or

(c) on which the mark “x” or any other mark which, in the opinion of the returning officer, clearly indicates a vote, is so placed as to indicate both a vote in favour of and a vote against the BID proposal, or

(d) on which the details do not correspond with the details on the relevant entry on the electoral roll, or

(e) which has not been signed

shall be invalid, but a ballot paper shall not be invalid by reason only of its bearing the figure “1” or the word “one” or any other mark which, in the opinion of the returning officer, clearly indicates a vote in favour or a vote against the BID proposal.

17. The returning officer shall cause the ballot papers to be scrutinised for the purpose of discovering any papers liable to be rejected as invalid.

18. The returning officer shall endorse the word "rejected" on any ballot paper which is invalid and prepare a statement showing the number of ballot papers rejected under paragraphs (a) to (e) of article 16.

19. The returning officer shall, rejecting any ballot papers that are invalid, arrange them in parcels according to the votes recorded on them and shall count and record the number of votes given in favour of the BID proposal which is the subject of the plebiscite and the number of votes given against that proposal and shall ascertain the total number of valid ballot papers.

20. The returning officer, having counted the valid votes and ascertained the number of votes in favour of and against the BID proposal, shall declare the result of the plebiscite in the form set out in Schedule 2.

21. The returning officer shall prepare and publish in at least one newspaper circulating in the area of the proposed business improvement district the result of the ratepayer plebiscite.

22. The returning officer shall take all proper precautions for the security of the ballot papers, and other documents relating to the plebiscite.

23. Every person attending the proceedings in connection with the issue, receipt or counting of ballot papers shall maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting.

SCHEDULE 1

FORM OF BALLOT PAPER.

No. on electoral roll.....

To (Insert Name and Billing Address of the Ratepayer)

(Insert name of rating authority) has received a proposal, under section 129C(1) (as inserted by section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006 (No. 42 of 2006)) of the Local Government Act 2001 (No. 37 of 2001) from *(Insert name and address of BID proponent)* to implement a business improvement district scheme.

Under Section 129G(1) (as inserted by section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006) of the Local Government Act 2001, *(Insert name of rating authority)* is required to hold a plebiscite to determine the level of support for the BID proposal among ratepayers of rateable property in the proposed business improvement district. The BID proposal is available for inspection at *(insert address/location and (as applicable) website address at which a copy of the proposal may be inspected)*.

As a ratepayer in the proposed business improvement district, do you approve of the BID proposal? If you approve, please place the mark "x" in the box opposite the word "YES" below. If you do not approve, please place the mark "x" in the box opposite the word "NO" below.

This ballot paper should be returned so as to reach the address on the enclosed envelope before.....o'clock on the (*insert last date for receiving completed ballot papers*).

YES	
NO	

Signature of Ratepayer/Ratepayers[1].....

Address.....

Date.....

[1] Section 129G(4) (as inserted by section 6 of the Local Government (Business Improvement Districts) Act 2006) of the Local Government Act 2001 provides that in the case where 2 or more persons own or occupy a rateable property and are liable for rates on that property, they shall be considered as one ratepayer for the purposes of the ratepayer plebiscite. In those circumstances, the persons concerned are not entitled to vote in the plebiscite unless a majority of them concurs and unless the vote is signed by a majority of them.

SCHEDULE 2.

FORM OF DECLARATION OF RESULT OF RATEPAYER PLEBISCITE.

I, the undersigned, being the returning officer at the ratepayer plebiscite held to determine the level of support among ratepayers of rateable property for a proposal for a business improvement district scheme from (*insert name of BID proponent*) hereby declare the result of the said plebiscite as follows—

Number of votes in favour of BID proposal

Number of votes against BID proposal

Signed.....

Returning Officer.

Dated this.....

L.S. GIVEN under my Official Seal,
24 April 2007

DICK ROCHE
Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation)

These Regulations set out the procedures to be followed by a rating authority in conducting a ratepayer plebiscite to determine the level of support for a proposal for a business improvement district scheme, under Part 13A of the Local Government Act 2001.

Galway County Council Archives

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COMHAIRLE BAILE THUAMA
Tuam Town Council



Cleireach an Bhaile,
Halla an Bhaile,
Tuaim, Co. na Gaillimhe.

Town Clerks Office,
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Tuam, Co Galway.

Tel: 093 242 46

Fax: 093 70463

Email: tclerk@tuamtc.galwaycoco.ie

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

20th June, 2007

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, 25th June, 2007 at 7 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angel Holian Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Election of Mayor

Election of Deputy Mayor

COMHAIRLE BAILE THUAMA
Tuam Town Council



Cleireach an Bhaile,
Halla an Bhaile,
Tuaim, Co. na Gaillimhe.

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Town Hall,
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Tel: 093 242 46

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Email: tclerk@tuamtc.galwaycoco.ie

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

20th June, 2007

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 25th June at 7.30 p.m. (following the annual meeting) You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angela Holian Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Minutes:

Manager's Business

Correspondence

The Grove Hospital

Tuam By-pass

C.C.T.V.

Traffic Management Plan

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday 11th June, 2007

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Flanagan

**Councillors: G. Browne-Lane, A. O'Donnell-Brady,
M. Ward, I. Kelly, P. O'Grady, T. Reilly, P. Warren,
T. McHugh**

Officials:

**Mr. Frank Gilmore, Director of Services
Mr. Peter Gavin, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk**

The Prayer was recited.

**The Minutes of monthly meeting held on Wednesday, 16th May, 2007 were adopted
on the proposal of Councillor Ward seconded by Councillor Warren.**

Matters arising from Minutes:

Councillor Reilly thanked the Town Engineer for the opening of the cemetery gates at weekends. Councillor Warren thanked the Town Engineer for work on the footpaths at Old Road. Councillor Ward asked that the An Tuirin Estate, Dublin Road be included by the Road Sweeper. Councillor Reilly stated that there was an amenity grant available from Galway County Council and suggested that Resident Associations may apply for this grant which would offset the costs of having lawns cut etc. Councillor Ward asked if there was any progress in the proposed development at the site behind the Dublin Road Estate.

Councillor O'Grady said Tuam was without water on Sunday 3rd May until approximately 4.30 p.m. There was no warning and no notice as to when the water might be restored. All Members spoke of problems experienced by people and requested that in future, should a similar situation arise, Galway Bay FM be advised and People be kept informed. All Councillors agreed there had been a lot of disruption of the water supply prior to the 3rd May and since. Councillor Ward stated that the water supply was not restored in the Gilmartin Road area until the following Wednesday. Mr. Gilmore apologized for the lack of communication, he said the situation was totally unforeseen, and he would pass their comments to the relevant people.

Manager's Business:

Mr. Gilmore told the Members that the Tuam Town Water Supply including Main Drainage Scheme is included on the Water Services Investment Programme 2005 – 2007. The cost allocated to the scheme is E28.6m. The Scheme includes for approximately 32 km of water main, 9 km of surface water sewers and 7.5 km of combined sewers. A new 5,250m³ capacity reservoir at Slievedarragh and 1,200m³ storm water holding tank at the existing sewage treatment works are also included for in this contract. Galway County Council received approval from the Department to proceed to tendering for the scheme and it is envisaged that invitations to tender shall be sought by the end of June.

Construction is subsequently expected to commence by February, 2008. This scheme will cause disruption and inconvenience in the town however Galway County Council will put in place a number of measures to mitigate the disruption. These measures will include prior consultation with other utilities, Gas, Electricity, Broadband? and ensure that as many as possible can be provided at this time. In addition a detailed Traffic Management Plan, currently being prepared, will dictate how the traffic within Tuam will be managed by the appointed contractor for the duration of the contract. Galway County Council will appoint a dedicated Public Liaison Officer and a dedicated public relations team. Replying to the Members Mr. Gilmore said the proposed Traffic Management Plan will be affected but minor works can go ahead. The Members welcomed the investment in the town.

Replying to the Members regarding knocking a building on High Street Mr. Gilmore said Galway County Council were waiting for a Licence from the Dept. of the Environment.

Correspondence:

The following letters were read, noted and agreed:

Letter dated 14th May, 2007 from Ms. Mary Monaghan, Secretary, Tuam Active Retirement Association – read.

Letter dated 14th May, 2007 from Ms. Siobhan Barron, Director, National Disability Authority – read

Letter dated 14th May, 2007 from Mr. Tom Delaney, Assistant Commissioner, Data Protection Commissioner – read.

Letter dated 18th May, 2007 from Mr. John Devaney, Partnership Manager, Confederation of European councilors – read.

Letter dated 18th May, 2007 from Dr. Mary Kelly, director General, Environmental Protection Agency – read.

Letter dated 30th May, 2007 from Mr. Adam Egan, NPWS, Dept. of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government - read.

Association of Irish Regions – Notice of 10th Annual Conference – noted.

Public Private Partnerships Policy Forum – Notice of 3rd Annual Conference – noted.

Grove Hospital: It was proposed by Councillor Reilly, seconded by the Mayor and agreed to write again to Mr. Murphy and invite him to the next meeting of the Board.

Tuam By-pass: Councillor Reilly stated that Archaeologists are still on site.

C.C.T.V.: Replying to the Members the Town Engineer said site notices had been erected. Councillor O'Grady asked that the cameras be erected before the summer. The Members condemned recent vandalism in the town.

Traffic Management Plan:

Replying to the Members the Town Engineer stated that the Traffic Management Plan is nearly completed and should be available in a few days. He said in view of proposed work on the Tuam Water Supply and Main Drainage Scheme any heavy work will have to be postponed. The Members requested that urgent action be taken in relation to Old Road and Chapel Lane. Replying to Councillor Kelly Mr. Gilmore said he had spoken to the Executive Engineer and requested extra surveillance for Old Road and Chapel Lane. Councillor Reilly asked that a Pedestrian Crossing be considered at the Glebe. The Mayor asked that speed ramps be installed on the road to the Palace Grounds. Replying to Councillor O'Grady the Town Engineer confirmed that an area for the Taxi Rank was included in the Traffic Management Plan. Councillor Browne-Lane called for courteous parking in Tuam, strict enforcement of parking laws and absolute vigilance by the Community Wardens and Gardai.

Annual financial Statement:

Mr. Gilmore introduced the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2006. In the Capital Account there was a credit balance of E125,884-00. Revenue Expenditure for the year was E267,962-00 while receipts were EE342,023-00 bringing the credit balance to E305,753-00. Mr. Gilmore said he wanted to draw attention to over-expenditure on a small number of items. The Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2006 and over-expenditures were approved on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by the Mayor.

A. .G. M.:

It was agreed the Annual General Meeting be held on Monday 25th June, 2007 at 7 p.m. and the July meeting be brought forward one week to the same date.

Contribution to the Arts:

The Town Clerk informed the Members that three applications had been received following the advertisement in the Tuam Herald. The Members discussed the applications received. It was proposed by Councillor O'Grady, seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that the Contribution to the Arts - 2007 be awarded to The Mall Theatre & Cinema Co. Ltd.

Town Hall Clock:

The Town Engineer told the Members that some work needed to be carried out on the clock tower. He proposed to have this carried out during the summer together with the installation of chimes in the clock. It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed that this work be carried out.

A. O. B.

Councillor O'Grady congratulated the successful candidates in the recent General Election. He paid tribute to outgoing Deputy Paddy McHugh, a huge loss to Tuam, and wished him well in the future. All Members paid tribute to Paddy McHugh.

Sympathy:

A vote of sympathy was passed with the following:

Lynch Family, Bishop Street on the death of Nancy Lynch and Mary Walsh
Heffernan Family, St. Joseph's Park on the death of Danny
Kilgarriff Family, Ballygaddy Road on the death of Kevin
Reilly Family, Old Road on the death of Mrs. Reilly
Gordan Family, Parkmore on the death of P. J.
Greaney Family, Cahernashelleney on the tragic death of Niall
Loughlin Family, Cregboy on the tragic death of Liam

This concluded the meeting

Recorded by,
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY: _____

MAYOR

Galway County Council Archives



TUAM TOWN WATER SUPPLY incl. MAIN DRAINAGE

Pre-Contract Information

June, 2007

TUAM TOWN WATER SUPPLY incl. MAIN DRAINAGE

The Tuam Town Water Supply incl. Main Drainage Scheme is included on the Water Services Investment Programme 2005 – 2007 as a scheme to start construction in 2006. The cost allocated to the scheme on the Programme is €28.6M. The scheme includes for approximately 32 km of water main, 9 km of surface water sewers and 7.5km of combined sewers. A new 5,250m³ capacity reservoir at Slievedarragh and a 1,200m³ storm water holding tank at the existing sewage treatment works are also included for in this contract. Galway Co. Co. have received approval from the Department to proceed to tendering for the scheme and it is envisaged that invitations to tender shall be sought by the end of June. Construction is subsequently expected to commence by February, 2008.

As with any major civil engineering project, this scheme is going to cause disruption and inconvenience to residents, businesses and the general public. However, Galway Co. Co. Water Services Section are putting in place a number of measures to mitigate the effects of the works and to aid effective and efficient communication with all potentially affected parties. These measures will include prior consultation with other utilities to optimise provision of services and ensure that as many as possible can be provided at this one time. In addition, a detailed Traffic Management Plan is currently being prepared which will dictate how the traffic within Tuam will be managed, by the appointed contractor, for the full duration of the contract. In the preparation of this plan, such issues as peak traffic times for particular areas, emergency services requirements, pedestrian and vehicular access, deliveries for businesses etc., shall be covered. It is also recognised that certain parts of the town will need to be completely avoided at particular times of the year, e.g. schools during term time and the centre of town during most of December. The option of night work shall also be considered in the formation of the plan.

It is also proposed that a dedicated Public Liaison Officer and dedicated public relations team shall be appointed to deal with effective dissemination of information and processing of concerns and complaints which should lead to a more timely resolution of problems, when and where they arise.



R.C. Killeen S.E.

Water Services

COMHAIRLE BAILE THUAMA
Tuam Town Council



Cleireach an Bhaile,
Halla an Bhaile,
Tuaim, Co. na Gaillimhe.

Town Clerks Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam, Co Galway.

Tel: 093 242 46

Fax: 093 70463

Email: tclerk@tuamtc.galwaycoco.ie

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

6-6-07

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 11th June at 7.00 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angela Holman Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Minutes:

Manager's Business

Correspondence

The Grove Hospital

Tuam By-pass

C.C.T.V.

Traffic Management:

Annual Financial Statement - 2006

Set date for Annual meeting

Select Sub-Committee re: "Contribution to the Arts"

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Wednesday, 16th May, 2007

Present: Mayor: Councillor Flanagan

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

Officials:

Mr. Frank Gilmore, Director of Services
Mr. Peter Gavin, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk

The Prayer was recited.

The Minutes of monthly meeting held on Monday 2nd April, 2007 were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Ward.

Matters arising from Minutes:

Replying to the Members regarding problems at Vicar Street, Purcell/Stockwell Road, Dublin Road, Chapel Lane, Gilmartin Road and Galway Road, problems with the Traffic Lights at Weir Road and Ballygaddy Road, and the barrier outside St. Patrick's school being demolished Mr. Gilmore said the Traffic Management Plan is nearing completion and will be brought before the Board and the Tuam Electoral Area Committee.

Councillor Warren said the installation of a sewerage system in vicarschoreland had a major impact on traffic at Vicar Street and Purcell/Stockwell Road and will continue for some time. He called for a pedestrian crossing to be installed adjacent to the Cluide housing estate. Councillor Browne-Lane said traffic mayhem had been caused recently by a drain cleaning machine at Chapel Lane and requested that in future adequate notice be given and signs erected prior to closing a road. Councillor O'Grady said the Traffic Management Plan needs to be brought before the next meeting. The taxi/hackney problem needs to be addressed. Councillor McHugh asked that action be taken against drivers who continue to park at Chapel Lane. Replying to Councillor Ward regarding the By-pass Mr. Gilmore said in discussions with the N.R.A. he had emphasized the urgency for the Tuam By-pass. Major hurdles have been overcome, the purchase of lands has been completed and documents are being prepared - in his opinion the Tuam By-pass is well on the way. He said the local Area Office had given priority to the preparation of the Traffic Management Plan and it would be brought before the next meeting of the Board.

Correspondence:

The following letters were read, noted and agreed:

Letter dated 28th March, 2007 from Ms. Ann Mallaghan, RAPID Co-ordinator. Ms. Mallaghan paid tribute to Councillor Miko Kelly, RIP and the contribution he made to the Area Implementation Team since it was first established. It was proposed by Councillor Browne-Lane and seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that Councillor McHugh represent the Town Council on the Area Implementation Team.

Letter dated 29th March, 2007 from Mr. H. Perry, 18 Austin Rise, Birmingham regarding Court House. Replying to Councillor O'Grady Mr. Gilmore stated that there were no new developments regarding the Court House.

Letter dated 5th April, 2007 from Derek H. Tyrrell, Secretary, Tuam Chamber of Commerce. It was agreed that Tuam Chamber of Commerce may use the Crest on its official paper.

Letter dated 24th April, 2007 from Mr. Tom Ryan, Director, Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland – read.

Straubing: It was agreed to invite the Mayor of Straubing to Tuam.

Grove Hospital:

Letters dated 25th April, 2007 from Mr. Brian Murphy, General Manager, Primary, Community & Continuing Care, Health Service Executive West. It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed to write again to Mr. Murphy and invite him to a meeting of the Board.

C.C.T.V.:

Replying to the Members the Town Engineer said site notices were being erected the next day.

Water:

Councillor Browne-Lane spoke on her motion regarding the Tuam water supply. She said the Board would like clarity as reports being circulated in the media intimates that in order to improve the situation in Galway City water will be taken from the Tuam supply. At the same time Tuam is on a "boil water" notice and are as inconvenienced as the residents of Galway.

Mr. Gilmore told the Members this was not a drinking water issue. The cryptosporidium outbreak is a Public Health problem. The source of the outbreak is difficult to pinpoint. Galway County Council acted promptly to prevent the outbreak from getting out of control by issuing a boil notice as recommended by the Health Service Executive West and this has worked. The "boil water" precaution has kept cryptosporidium from crippling the community. He said cryptosporidium was undetectable in the Tuam water supply but advised that the all-clear from the Health Service Executive was required before the "boil water" notice could be lifted. In order for the "boil water" notice to be lifted by the Health Service Executive the following conditions had to be met: (1) the test results for treated water had to be clear of cryptosporidium for a number of weeks and (2) the number of cryptosporidiosis cases had to drop to "normal" background levels as determined by the Health Service Executive West. In relation to supply of water from Tuam to Galway he said this was part of an upgrading process which had already been planned but has now been fast-tracked and funded by the Department of the Environment. Galway City supplied water to parts of the county. Galway County Council are satisfied there is no cryptosporidium in treated water, an extra layer of treatment has been installed and further refinements will take place early next year. Galway County Council Housing Unit have put in place a scheme whereby the Community Wardens will deliver water to the elderly. Anyone wishing to avail of this scheme should contact the Area Office. Information on the water is available on the Galway County Council website.

Skatepark:

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Kevin Kelly, Director of Services, Galway County Council to the meeting. Mr. Kelly presented plans and outlined proposals for a skate-park and two five a side all weather soccer pitches for the Palace grounds. He said there had been no time for consultation prior to applying for funding as the time for submission of applications had been very short. The project would be managed by Aura Leisure on behalf of Galway County Council. E80,000-00 had already been spend on the playground under the RAPID programme and the proposed works, costing E400.000-00, would provide first class sporting facilities in the town.

Letter dated 11th May, 2007 from Mr. Maitias O Gormaile, Honorary Secretary, Palace Grounds Committee was read.

The Mayor and Members thanked Mr. Kelly for his presentation but felt that the facilities should be located in some other area.

A.O.B.:

It was proposed by Councillor O'Grady seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed that Tuam Martyrs Cuman be given access to the Town Hall (room downstairs) on Saturday 19th May, 2007.

It was proposed by Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed to request Galway County Council to open the main gate on Sundays to allow elderly people access to the cemetery.

Councillor McHugh asked that the park behind houses at Dublin Road be cleaned.

Councillor Warren asked that a tree outside No. 77 Athenry Road be removed.


The Members condemned the vandalism of the new crèche at Dublin Road.

Replying to Councillor Reilly regarding reducing the cost of using the superloo from 50 cents to 20 cents Mr. Gilmore said this cannot be done.

This concluded the meeting

Recorded by,
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY:


MAYOR

087.2910173

Wed 14/5/07
at

Seamus O'Connell

Palace Grounds Committee

Team

11/5/07

Dear Angela:

I would be most appreciative if you read out the following letter to your meeting.

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

I would be most grateful for your consideration in supporting our opposition to the proposed development of 50 mini-soccer pitches in the Palace Park. Whilst no formal outline or notices have yet been displayed, we feel that the huge grant of one hundred and eighty thousand euros must entail a sizeable development, and would seriously erode the green area of the park. We further feel that this could well be the thin end of the wedge ^{with} more development further down the line. We also feel that the existing team soccer clubs, Dynamo Blues and team Celtic, are doing excellent work for those involved in soccer at all ages. Regrettably the park has not escaped the recent wave of vandalism in many parts of the town; and we feel that mini soccer pitches could be used by the wrong crowd for the wrong purpose.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours

Matias O'Formade
(Hon Sec. Palace Grounds Committee)

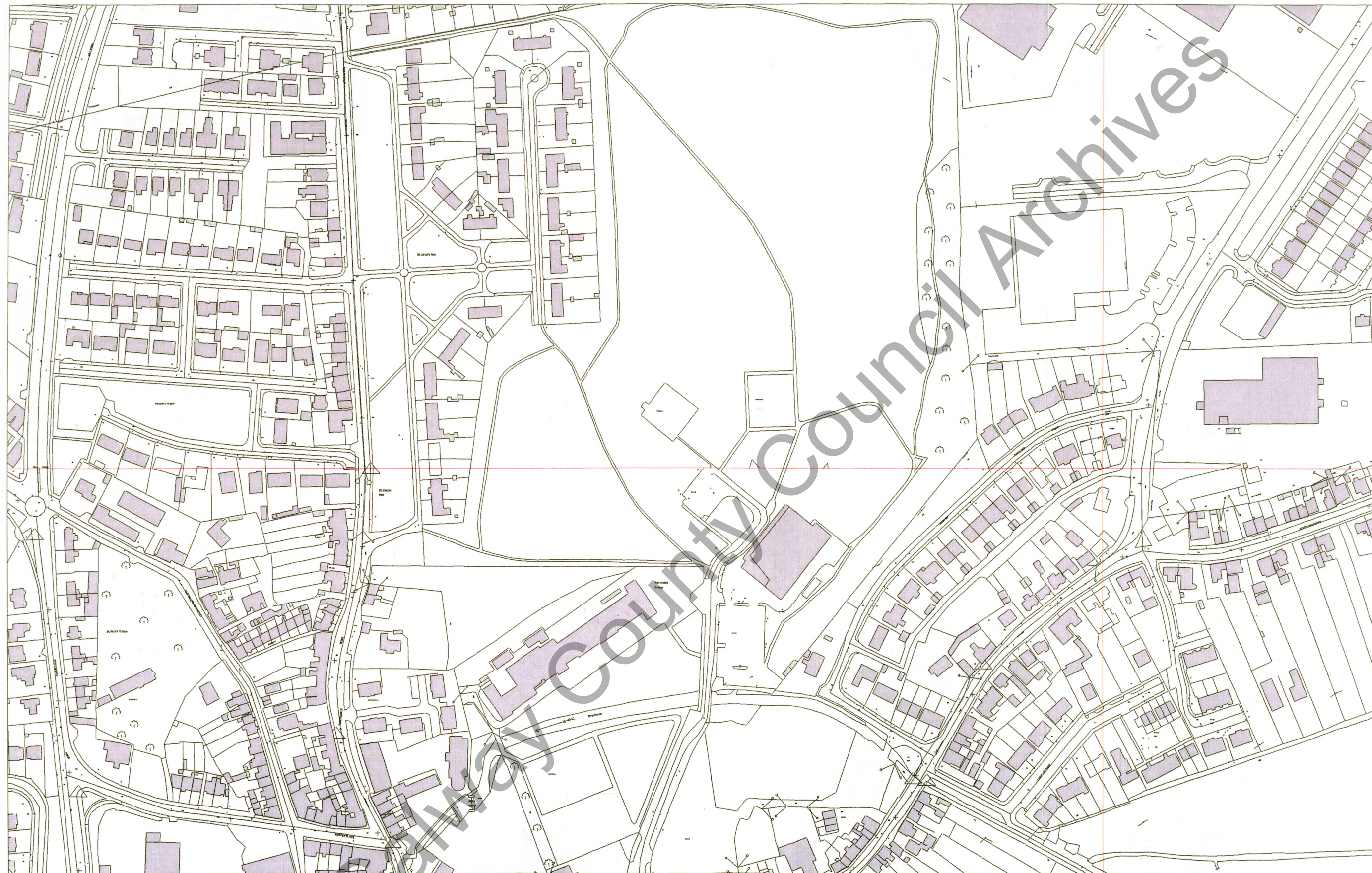


Galway County Council



Location: Palace Grounds

Scale 1:2500

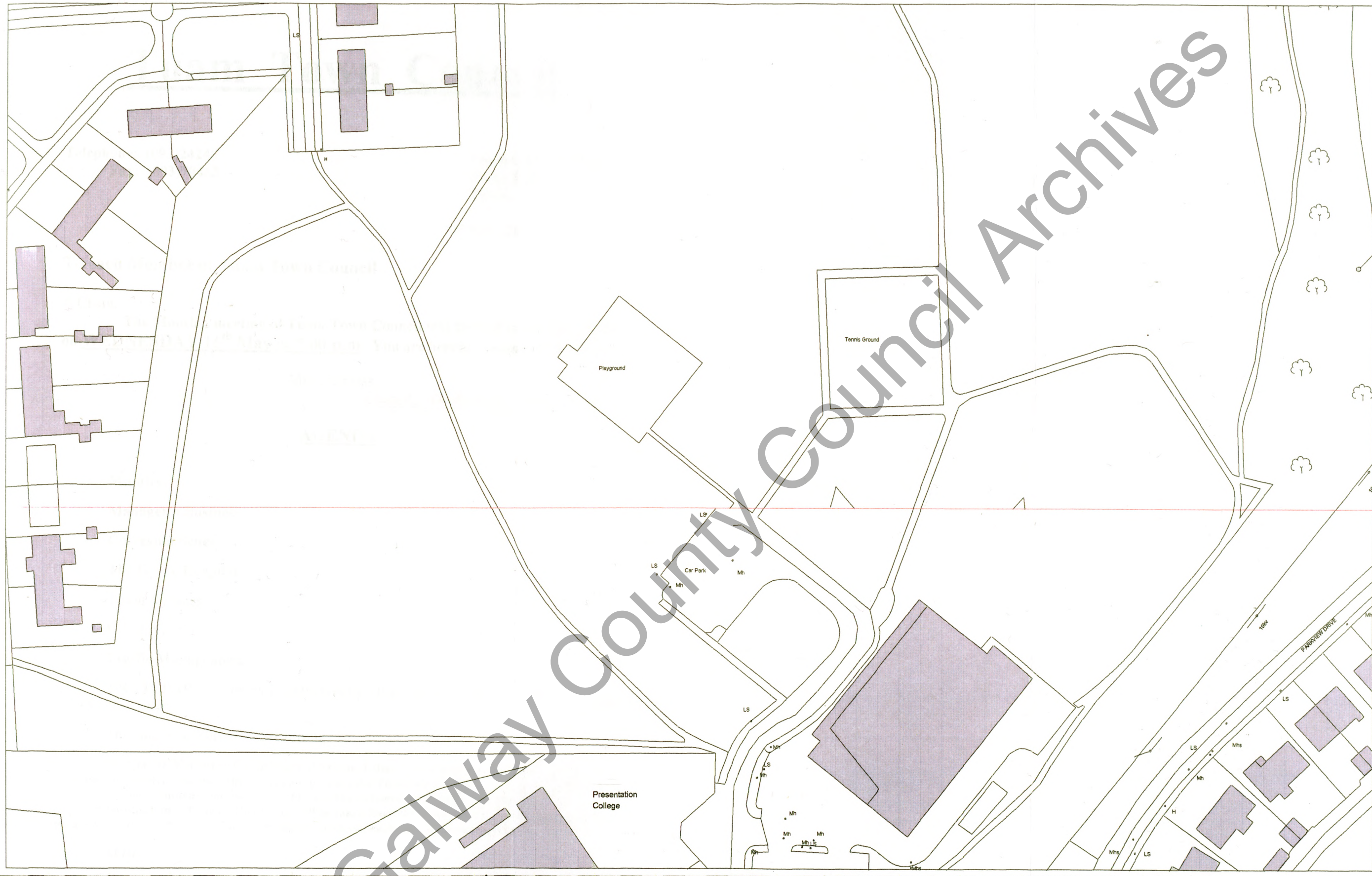


Galway County Council



Location: Palace Grounds

Scale 1:2500



Galway County Council



Location: Palace Grounds

Scale 1:1000

Tuam Town Council

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

Town Clerk's Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam.

9th May, 2007

To each Member of Tuam Town Council

A Chara,

The Monthly meeting of Tuam Town Council will be held in the Town Hall on WEDNESDAY 16th May at 7.00 p.m. You are hereby summoned to attend.

Mise, le meas,

Angela Horgan Baile Cleireach

AGENDA

Minutes:

Manager's Business

Correspondence

The Grove Hospital

Tuam By-pass

C.C.T.V.

Traffic Management:

SKATEPARK – Sports Capital Grant – Presentation by Mr. Kevin Kelly,
Director of Services

Invitation to Mayor of Straubing

Notice of Motion: Councillor Browne-Lane - "I propose that this Council seek a full comprehensive report on the situation regarding the Tuam water supply. I particularly seek this information as information being circulated in the national media intimates that in order to improve the situation in Galway City water will be taken from the Tuam supply. At the same time we are on a "Boil water notice" and are equally inconvenienced as the residents of Galway City".

AOB

COMHAIRLE BAILE THUAMA
Tuam Town Council



Cleireach an Bhaile,
Halla an Bhaile,
Tuaim, Co. na Gaillimhe.

Town Clerks Office,
Town Hall,
Tuam, Co Galway.

Tel: 093 242 46

Fax: 093 70463

Email: tclerk@tuamtc.galwaycoco.ie

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Addition to Agenda

for meeting to be held on Wednesday 16th May, 2007

Application for use of Town Hall

Galway County Council Archives



Tuam Town Council

Comhairle Baile Thuama

Town Hall, Tuam, Co. Galway

APPLICATION FORM

For use of the Town Hall

Name of applicant/organization

Tuam MARTYRS
Cumann

Reason for request to use the Town Hall

TO HOLD Public meet For DEBATE ON
ELECTION

Contact name & number

Francis Hopkins
087 6936774

No. of days/nights (state time)

Saturday 19 May 07

2.30 PM - 4.30 PM

(2 Hours approx)

No. of People expected to attend

50+

Are you a voluntary organization?

Yes

Please note the Boardroom is not available.

Galway County Council will be responsible for opening and closing of premises.

Charges will apply: E20.00 per hour (9.30am to 5.30pm)

E30.00 per hour after 5.30 pm.

TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday 2nd April, 2007

Present:

Mayor: Councillor Flanagan

**Councillors: M. Ward, T. McHugh, P. O'Grady,
A. O'Donnell-Brady, P. Warren, I. Kelly, G. Browne-Lane,
T. Reilly**

Officials:

**Mr. Peter Gavin, Town Engineer
Mrs. Angela Holian, Town Clerk**

The Prayer was recited.

The Minutes of monthly meeting held on Monday 5th March, 2007 were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Ward.

The Minutes of the Sub-committee meeting held on Monday 16th March, 2007 were adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ward seconded by Councillor Reilly.

The Minutes of the Special meeting held on Monday 26th March, 2007 was adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ward seconded by Councillor Browne-Lane.

Matters arising from Minutes:

Replying to Councillor Kelly the Town Engineer said the public toilet is operational.
Replying to Councillor O'Grady regarding charge of 50 cents the Town Engineer said this was to cover maintenance costs. It was proposed by Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor O'Donnell-Brady and agreed that Galway County Council be requested to reduce the cost of using the toilet to 20 cents, which is the cost of using a public toilet in Galway.

Replying to Councillor Kelly regarding the roundabout at the Square the Town Engineer said the construction of a new roundabout is being considered. Temporary work would be carried out shortly.

Replying to the Mayor regarding the chimes in the Town Hall Clock the Town Engineer said he would speak to Mr. Lally.

Replying to Councillor Browne-Lane regarding illegal parking Mr. Gavin said the Traffic Wardens, who are in town daily, would be requested to monitor.

Replying to Councillor Warren Mr. Gavin said some yellow lines are to be removed on Dublin Road.

Councillor O'Donnell-Brady queried why Taxi Licences were issued in Tuam where there was no official Taxi rank. Councillor Reilly stated that a lot of towns were in a similar situation. He was of the opinion that by June there will be a proper place for taxis to operate from. Councillor O'Grady stated that the Town Council do not have a say in the matter but the taxi rank and a place for hackneys is urgently needed. He proposed that the first two rows of the car park at Bishop Street be used as a taxi rank.

Correspondence:

The following letters were read, noted and agreed:

Letter dated 20th March, 2007 from Naas Town Council. There was unanimous support for the following Motion: "That this Council supports the efforts of everylifecounts.com in their efforts to have just one day each year, 21st September, World Peace Day, where there won't be any deaths on television for entertainment purposes".

Letter dated 21st March, 2007 from Kerry County Council - read.

Notice re: New national garden event, Phoenix Park, 1st - 4th June 2007 - noted

Notice re: Conference entitled "Twinning for Tomorrow's World", 10th -12th May, 2007.

Grove Hospital:

Letters dated 30th March, 2007 from Mr. Brian Murphy, General Manager, Primary, Community & continuing Care, Health Service Executive West. It was proposed by Councillor O'Grady, seconded by Councillor Reilly and agreed to write to Mr. Murphy and request that he meet with the Town Council before the end of the Month.

Water:

Councillor Reilly told the Members he had attended a meeting of Galway County Council regarding the water earlier in the day. Mr. Jim Cullen, Director of Services, Environment, Water & Emergency Services stated that the water in Tuam was fine, boil it as a precaution. This was also the message from the Health Service Executive. Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Ward and agreed that the Mayor contact Mr. Gilmore, County Manager in the morning and request that he go on Radio and clarify the situation.

Tuam By-pass:

Councillor Reilly told the Members that 'Notice to treat' had been served on the Land Owners. He said the N.R.A. were considering the provision of two traffic lanes each way. The By-pass should be ready to go to tender late 2007 or early 2008.

C.C.T.V.:

Replying to Councillor Ward the Town Engineer said site notices were being prepared. The site notices will be displayed for four to five weeks. CCTV should be up and running following another four to five weeks.

Traffic Management Plan:

Replying to the Members the Town Engineer said the draft Traffic Management Plan was nearly complete. When complete it will be sent to the Roads & Transportation Unit, Galway County Council. It was proposed by Councillor McHugh, seconded by the Mayor and agreed that when the Traffic Management Plan is published by Galway County Council the Town Council hold a special meeting and make a submission.

Tuam Arts Festival – Economic Study:

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Ronan Long, President, Tuam Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Derek Tyrell, Secretary, Tuam Chamber of Commerce and Ms. Sarah Roarty, Tuam Arts Festival to the meeting. Ms. Roarty told the meeting that the study had been commissioned by Tuam Chamber of Commerce and conducted by Ms. Fidelma Murphy,

BA, Dept. of Economics, N.U.I.G. She said the Tuam Arts Festival is entering its fifth year. The Arts Festival was first organized by Earwig Arts Group in 2003 to provide Tuam and its surroundings with an outlet for its wealth of creative talent. Ten Thousand People attended the Festival, from Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Fermanagh, Louth, Meath, Dublin, Wicklow, Westmeath, Clare and Cork. Twelve per cent of all fee paying attendees were interviewed. Various questions were asked including how people heard of the festival. The Study revealed that sixty per cent of attendees attended for the first time and thirty per cent had attended the previous year. Ninety per cent of attendees expressed satisfaction with the Festival.

The Mayor and Members thanked the Chamber of Commerce and the Arts Festival Committee for the presentation, congratulated them on the success of the Arts Festival and wished them continued success in the future.

It was agreed to invite applications from organizations in the town who would be considered for funding under the 'Contribution to the Arts' allocation.

Women in Leadership Group:

The Mayor welcomed the "Women in Leadership Group" to the meeting. Ms. Loretta Needham stated that the course "Women, Leadership and Social Change" was funded through the Equality for Women Measure project awarded to the Tuam Community Development Resource Centre. The Tuam Community Development resource Centre has always had Women's issues at the fore of its agenda and advocates on behalf of women in a variety of fora and also supports their needs through a variety of services including childcare and a domestic violence one-to-one confidential support. The Equality for Women Measure project ran for a period of eighteen months. Central to the project was the delivery of a FETAC accredited programme "Women, Leadership and Social Change". The course involved twenty three-hour sessions attended on a weekly basis and a number of workshops.

The group outlined issues of concern. They appealed to the Town Council to highlight the issue of childcare, or lack there-of. Without adequate and affordable childcare it is impossible for women to progress in the community, workplace, economy or political arena, to continue to highlight the issue of wheelchair accessibility and accessible community space.

Letter dated 6th March, 2007 from Ms. Gilliam Murphy was read.

This can be

Use of the Town Crest:

Councillor Browne-Lane told the Members that the Town Council, following discussions with the Heraldic Office, had commissioned a Crest for Tuam a number of years ago. In the advertising literature used by the Arts Festival last year the Crest appeared with "TUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE" while "TUAM TOWN COUNCIL" stood alone giving the impression that the Crest belonged to the Chamber of Commerce. Anyone wishing to use the Town Crest should write to the Town Board.

A.O.B.:

Councillor McHugh asked if there was any progress on the erection of decorative signs. Councillor Reilly asked if graffiti had been removed from the children's playground. Councillor Browne-Lane said a lot of rubbish is being left at the bottle banks also she asked if a traffic cone could be removed from the river.

Councillor O'Grady raised the issue of Broadband. He said the I.D.A. cannot attract a Tenant to its industrial park on the Dunmore Road because of lack of Broadband. He said it was disgraceful that Tuam, a Hub town didn't have a basic facility such as Broadband.

It was agreed to invite applications from organizations in the town who would like to be considered for funding under the "contribution to the Arts" allocation.

Congratulations:

Congratulations were extended to Matthias O'Gormally on the publication of his book. The Mayor was congratulated on her nomination for Young Person of the Year.

Sympathy:

A vote of Sympathy was passed with the following Families:

Burke Family on the death of Dixie
Geddes Family on the death of Jarlath
Henry Family on the death of Mick
Phyllis Fox on the death of her mother

This concluded the meeting

Recorded by,
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

SIGNED BY:


MAYOR

Tuam Town Council April 2nd 2007

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, we ~~were~~^{are} some of the participants of a course entitled "Women, Leadership and Social Change" which was funded through the Equality for Women Measure project awarded to the Tuam Community Development Resource Centre. On behalf of the group I would like to thank you for allowing us this opportunity this evening.

As many of you may be familiar the Tuam Community Development Resource Centre has always had women's issues at the fore of its agenda and advocates on behalf of women in a variety of fora and also supports their needs through a variety of services including childcare and a domestic violence one-to-one confidential support. When the Equality for Women Measure funding programme was announced the Tuam Resource Centre seized the opportunity to further enhance women's voices in local decision making structures.

The Equality for Women Measure project ran for a period of 18 months which ended last Friday. Central to the project was the delivery of a FETAC accredited programme "Women, Leadership and Social Change". The course involved twenty 3 hour session that we attended on a weekly basis and a number of workshops.

Through this course we have grown to realise and understand the position of women in today's society. While we acknowledge that many advances have been made particularly in the ~~un~~employment field, the gender debate is not over.

The concept that the personal is political has allowed us to recognise that our daily experiences, be it struggling to pay for childcare or parenting alone or our inability to access employment or recovering from a violent relationship or just finding some time for ourselves, are not a product of our own making they are intrinsically linked to wider political, economic and social forces.

Women's under-representation in decision-making is having significant influences on our lives. Our voices and concerns are being under-represented and therefore largely unheard. While we make up 50% of the population only 13% of Dail members are women and the shocking statistic that at the current rate of increase it will take 370 years for us to have a 50:50 representation, has woken us up to recognise the need for proactive measures.

Sarah will provide you with an overview of our learning.

Through meeting Mary Rusimibi the leader of the Tanzanian Gender Networking Programme we learned to value our role as women in society, as well as in the home. We have realised the huge contribution we have made for centuries that has gone unrewarded through our care provision and raising the children of tomorrow.

Through working with Meave Taylor of Banulacht an Irish Feminist Organisation we learned about the economy. How the state and the market predominate the neo-liberal approach to politics that runs our country. How the care economy is not recognised or valued because monetary exchanges are not involved. We have had our eyes opened to see that as our government increasingly privatises services the burden disproportionately falls on women, one example can be seen in the Health care sector - as now that hospital stays are shorter and the patients are sent home earlier yet the patient is still in need of care, who has to step up? The women that's who.

Through working with Noirin Clancy of the National Women's Council of Ireland and the Women's Human Rights Alliance we learned about international agreements that our country has signed which promise to develop the necessary supports and measures to increase women equality and participation in decision-making. We learned about her lobbying in the UN on behalf of women in Ireland and we also learned about the unsatisfactory reports and commentary made by the government. To highlight our point I will quote from one of the international agreements, the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. And this agreement states "the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields".

And through working with each other we have learned the most. We can see the strength of character in each of us and we have learned to pool our inner strength for collective action. A famous feminist Margaret Fuller once said "If you have knowledge, let others light their candle in it" and this quote aptly sums up our experience of working together.

Galway County Council Archives

To finish up we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Tuam Town Council for being a fine example of reflecting social change, through being the first council in Ireland to have a female majority. However we would also like to take this chance to voice the issues that have been highlighted by ourselves and also through a seminar for women held in Tuam September last. In this short time we cannot possibly attempt to discuss them all so we have decided to list a few.

First and foremost the issues of childcare, or lack there of, must be taken more seriously by both the Town and County Council. Without adequate and affordable childcare it is impossible for many women to progress in our community, in the workplace, in the economy or in the political arena.

The issue of access has been continuously noted as well. A prominent member of our group is a wheelchair user and through her we learned about the daily battle she has in accessing buildings and crossing the streets. Other women are also affected by this as there are many parts of Tuam that we couldn't possibly bring a buggy and many roads that are not safe for us to walk with our children. With all the talk of our health problems and congestion on the road it's a wonder how these are not linked. Women are forced to drive their children everywhere as it is not safe otherwise.

A lack of accessible community space is a problem for our entire community. However while women are predominantly engaged in "care" type community work they do not have the access to resources such as sponsorship and fundraising as the more male dominated arenas such as sporting organisations. There is no safe space for women to meet and

unlike many other towns we do not have a dedicated space for women's groups to meet. Perhaps this could be taken into consideration when plans for the new library are being drawn up.

Once again, on behalf of the group, many thanks for your time this evening.

Galway County Council Archives



*Tuam Community Development Resource
Centre Limited*
Bishop Street, Tuam, Co. Galway.
Tel/Fax: 093 25340

①

Tuesday 6th March 2007

Dear Angela,

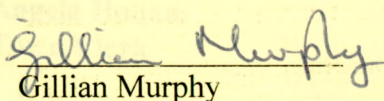
I am writing to you on behalf of the Women in Leadership Group. Through discussions with Mayor Sally-Ann Flanagan we have learned that we can request an opportunity to make a short deposition to Tuam Town Council at your next meeting, Monday the 2nd of April 2007.

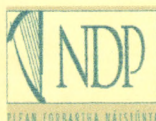
The group have been undertaking the Women, Leadership & Social Change FETAC Module since last October. We would like to have the chance to provide an overview of the course, highlighting our learning and the importance of gender equality in decision-making. Over the duration of the course some local issues have arisen on a number of occasions, we would like to take this opportunity to list these issues, our issues, to the council.

There are 15 women in the group, it is hoped the majority will attend on the night.

If you could confirm our attendance with us we would be most grateful.

Warm Regards,


Gillian Murphy



Registered in Ireland Registration No 8230807D
Charitable Status No 15230



Tuam Town Council

Special Sub Committee Meeting
held on
Monday 26th March, 2007

Attendance: Mayor S. A. Flanagan,
Councillors G. Browne-Lane, A. O'Donnell-Brady, P. Warren
I. Kelly.
Mr. P. Gavin, Town Engineer
Angela Holian, Town Clerk

Apology: Councillor Reilly, Councillor McHugh

The Meeting was called to discuss the application by Old Tuam Society to use the Board Room on the occasion of a special lecture by Dr. Terence Dooley, History Department, NUI Maynooth as per letter dated 11th March, 2007 from Dr. Gabriel O'Connor, President, Old Tuam Society.

The Mayor stated that at sub-committee meeting held on 16th March, 2007 it was noted it had previously been agreed not to let the Board Room. Following discussion it was agreed to accommodate the Old Tuam Society on this important occasion.

It was proposed by the Mayor seconded by Councillor Browne-Lane and agreed to host a Civic Reception for Mr. Eddie O'Sullivan, Manager, Ireland International Rugby Team.

This concluded the meeting

Recorded by:
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk



TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Special Sub-committee meeting

Held on

Monday 16th March, 2007

Attendance: Mayor Flanagan, Councillor Kelly, Mr. Stephen Lally, Town Engineer and Angela Holian, Town Clerk.

The Sub-committee met to discuss application, by the Old Tuam Society to use the Board Room on the occasion of a special lecture by Dr. Terence Dooley, Co-ordinator of the Government funded Centre for study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates, History Department, NUI, Maynooth.

Letter dated 11th March, 2007 from Dr. Gabriel O'Connor was read.

As the sub-committee had previously recommended to the Town Council that the Board Room not be let it was agreed to call a special full Town Council meeting on Monday 26th March, 2007 to discuss this application.

Recorded by:
Angela Holian,
Town Clerk

Stephen Lally



Old Tuam Society

Established 1942

093 - 24718

11 March 07.

Ms. Angela Holian
Town Clerk,
Tuam Town Councillors,
Town Hall, Tuam.

I have already applied, on behalf of the Old Tuam Society, for the use of a room in the Town Hall for our monthly committee meetings and lectures. We are hopeful of a positive reply.

I understand that there is a difficulty with allowing lectures to be held in the large council chamber, but perhaps one exception could be made in order to host a very special guest lecturer, Dr. Terence Dooley, on Thursday 19th of April next.

Dr. Dooley is co-ordinator of the Government funded Centre for the study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates at the History Department, NUI, Maynooth. His major works include 'The decline of the big house in Ireland' (2001); 'A future for Irish historic houses', (2003); 'The land for the people: The land question in independent Ireland (2004); 'The Big Houses and Landed Estates in Ireland': A research guide, (2007).

He proposes to speak, in Tuam, on the land question, the land war and the 'big houses' during the revolutionary period (with special emphases on the west of Ireland) from 1917 to 1923.

The Old Tuam Society intends to invite the town councillors and local dignitaries to this lecture. I sincerely hope the Town Hall will be available to host this prestigious event for our town.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Gabriel O'Connor.

Gabriel O'Connor

Recd 2-4-07



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

From the office of the
General Manager

Primary, Community & Continuing Care
Health Service Executive West
25 Newcastle Road
Galway

Seirbhísí Príomhúla, Pobail agus Cúram leanúnach
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte an Iarthair
25 Bóthar an Chaisleáin Nua
Gaillimh

(091) 546312
(091) 546213

30th March 2007

Ms Angela Holian,
Town Clerk,
Town Hall,
Tuam,
Co Galway.

Re: Tuam Health Campus

Dear Ms Holian,

I refer to my previous correspondence indicating that I would attend to brief Council members in relation to the processes and status of the Tuam Health Campus Development.

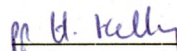
At a meeting today of the Steering Group, it was advised that such a briefing at this stage might compromise the eventual outcome of the Competitive Dialogue Process. Such a briefing prior to any publication of Expressions of Interest might be seen to be prejudicial to the eventual outcome.

As it is anticipated that the Expressions of Interest will be sought within the next few weeks, it will not be possible to brief prior to then. However, all members of the Council will be invited to attend a full briefing by the Steering Committee in due course.

I regret very much any inconvenience caused but you will appreciate that the procurement process is very strict and open to legal challenge and we do not want to jeopardise the programme of work.

I will be in further contact with you in regard to this at the opportune time.

Yours sincerely,


Brian Murphy
General Manager