

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Átha an Rí

Municipal District of Athenry

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Athenry held in Aras an Chontae on Tuesday 8th July 2025.

I LATHAIR:

BAILL: Cllr. C. Keane (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. P. Feeney
Cllr. S. Broderick
Cllr. D. Collins
Cllr M. McNamara
Cllr J. Charity,
Cllr T. Grealish

OIFIGIH: Ms C.McDonagh, A/ DoS
Mr. S. Whelan, S.E.E.
Mr. P. Gavin, E.E.
Ms. G. Cooley, A.O.

To confirm Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Athenry held in Aras an Chontae, on Tuesday 10th June 2025. AMD 59

On the proposal of Cllr. Charity, Seconded by Cllr. Broderick, the minutes of the Athenry MD AGM held on the 10th June, 2025 were approved.

To confirm Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Athenry held in Aras an Chontae on Tuesday 10th June, 2025 AMD 60

On the proposal of Cllr. Feeney, Seconded by Cllr. Broderick the minutes of the Athenry MD held on the 10th June, 2025 were approved.

Declaration of Road to be a Public Road – Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993. AMD 61

Description

Droim na Gaoithe (Lakeview Estate) Baile Chlair, Claregalway

1. Section A – B

Road pavement and footpath commencing at junction A with the N83-241, in the townland of Droim na Gaoithe and extending southeast for a distance of 244m ending at point B, all in the townland of Droim na Gaoithe.

2. Section C – D

Road pavement and footpath commencing at junction C, in the townland of Droim na Gaoithe and extending north east for a distance of 109m ending at point D, all in the townland of Droim na Gaoithe.

3. Section E – F

Road pavement and footpath commencing at junction E, in the townland of Droim na Gaoithe and extending south east for a distance of 94m ending at point F, all in the townland of Droim na Gaoithe.

Cllr. Collins said that he welcomed this taking in charge, as Lakeview estate is 50 years old, and this would tie in with the proposed works in Claregalway. Cllr. Collins complimented Edel Horrigan and the taking in charge team for their work on this proposal.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Collins SECONDED by Cllr Grealish the Members AGREED the declaration of Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 as outlined in the report.

To consider and approve a Part 8 application for a 12-unit housing development and a 5 bedroom care home facility at Cullairbaun, Athenry.

AMD 62

Mr. Brogan gave a presentation on the proposed housing development at Cullairbaun, Athenry to the Members. He said that the development would include a 12 unit housing development and a Community Care home which will be run by the Brothers of Charity.

Submissions were received from the public which included submissions in relation to the pedestrian access to the existing estate. Amendments were made to exclude pedestrian access in consultation with the Active Travel Team. There were also amendments made to the footpath layout. A contractor will be appointed in Quarter 3, and it is hoped to deliver the final project at the end of 2026.

Cllr. Feeney welcomed the proposed development but requested that the current green space in Cullairbaun be retained.

Cllr. McNamara welcomed the age friendly development and stressed the need for the recreational facility.

Cllr. Collins said that this age friendly development consisting of smaller housing units would be a good model for the rest of the county.

Mr. Brogan replied that the retention of the green space was a matter for planning, and Mr. Mitchell added that he would liaise with planning.

On the Proposal of Cllr. Feeney and seconded by Cllr. McNamara the Part 8 application for a 12-unit housing development and a 5-bedroom care home facility at Cullairbaun, Athenry was approved with amendments.

To consider and approve a Part 8 application for a 43-unit housing development at Gort Mhaoilir, Athenry. AMD 63

Mr. Brogan gave a presentation on the proposed housing development at Gort Mhaoilir, Athenry, consisting of 43 units with a mix of 1 – 5 beds. He said that submissions were received and there are no boundary issues. He highlighted that the proposed window overlooking the neighboring estate is not an issue as it is more than the recommended 22m in distance. Following requests from the Members it was agreed that obscured glass would be installed.

The density of 24 units per hectare is within the Development Plan guidelines. There will be 186 parking spaces. It is hoped that residents will use the opportunity to walk to the nearby train station, schools etc. due to the proximity of the estate to the town.

He said that the proposed timeframe to appoint a contractor will be in quarter 3, with final project delivery expected in late 2026.

Cllr. McNamara welcomed the proposed development but hoped that certain issues resulting from submissions made could be addressed prior to development commencing. There are currently issues with parking in the area and the trains are running beyond capacity.

In response to a query from Cllr. Feeney on the density of the site Mr. Brogan said that the site density can change based on the suitability of the site. In response to a request from the Members Mr. Brogan agreed that the bin storage would be moved from the boundary wall of the Gort Mhaoilir estate.

Cllr Feeney acknowledged the hard work of the Council housing officials in trying to solve the current issue of parking in the area.

Cllr. Broderick welcomed the proposed development and highlighted the need for housing in Athenry.

Mr. Brogan advised that the design of the estate would meet with the recommendations when the whole of the Gort Mhaoilir estate was taken into consideration. He said that the capacity of the trains should increase once the proposed loop at Oranmore was constructed.

On the proposal of Cllr. Feeney seconded by Cllr. McNamara the Part 8 application for a 43-unit housing development at Gort Mhaoilir, Athenry was approved with amendments.

Municipal District Director's Business & Correspondence. AMD 64

There was no item under this heading.

Cathaoirleach's Business. AMD 65

There was no item under this heading.

Any Other Business AMD 66

Mr. Whelan gave an update on works carried out in the Athenry Oranmore area.

In response to a query from Cllr Feeney on the alleviation of flooding at the bridge adjacent to the playground in Athenry Mr. Whelan advised that an application has been made to the OPW for a Hydro Study and a funding request will be made for a project at this location.

Cllr. Broderick said that the issue of flooding in the Ballyboggan to Athenry area was raised at Leinster House by the OPW.

In reply to a query from Cllr Grealish on the traffic lights at Montiagh junction, Claregalway Mr. Whelan replied that the costing has been obtained for the works, but it will take time to solve the controller issue.

In reply to a query on the junction at Derrydonnell Mr Whelan advised that the left turn or deceleration lane will not be included. It is not an option in the road design manual.

In reply to the Members query on hedge cutting, Mr. Whelan advised that a contractor was appointed. He said that costs are high due to the need for traffic management. Mr. Whelan advised that Eircom were contacted on numerous occasions regarding the loose wires in the ditches following the recent storms.

Cllr. Charity acknowledged the road safety scheme and pedestrian crossing scheduled for October. Due to the success of the introduction of the local bus scheme in the area, Cllr. Charity hopes Ms Higgins, and the Active Travel team will be successful in getting a bus shelter for the area.

Cllr. Keane advised that the Maree Road residents were very pleased with the recent works at this location.

Criochnaigh an Crinniu Ansin

Approved by 

Cathaoirleach

Date: 9/9th/2025