

## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

### **Minutes of the Planning, & Community Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held in Centre Point on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016.**

#### ***I LATHAIR***

**Baill:** Cllr. Jim Cuddy (Chair)  
Cllr. Frank Kearney  
Cllr. Seamus Walsh  
Cllr. Shaun Cunniffe  
Cllr. Dermot Connolly  
Cllr. Aidan Donohue.

#### **Oifigigh:**

Catherine Mc Connell, A/DOS, Planning & Sustainable Development, Industrial Relations & Community, Enterprise Development  
Saoirse Kennedy, Senior Executive Planner.  
Kieran Coyne, Rapid Co-Ordinaor.  
Mairead O Malley, ASO, Planning & Sustainable Development Unit.

#### **Apologies:**

Mr. Gus McCarthy,  
Ms. Frances O'Reilly.

#### **Minutes of Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> June were proposed for adoption by Cllr. Kearney and seconded by Cllr. Connolly.

#### **Update on Progress on Local Area Plans-Portumna.**

S. Kennedy gave a presentation on the progression of the Local Area Plans. Portumna Area Plan was put before the Council on 11/11/15 and no alterations were made to the plan 6 sites in the Plan were checked to see if a SEA or AA was required. Areas number two and four were eliminated from flood zone area. The Plan is on display until next Wednesday and it is hoped to put before the full Council in April or May for adoption. C. Mc Connell stated that the current cycle of Local Area Plans for review is at a close. The next stage is looking at new plans for the bigger areas. Barna, Athenry, Loughrea and Oranmore are the next areas for review.

#### **Proposed Variation of County Development Plan to facilitate the GCTP.**

C. Mc Connell stated that there was ongoing discussion between Galway City Council and Galway County Council regarding the GCTP. The development Plan for Galway County Council needs to be varied to allow the project proceed to planning stage. This is the first time Galway County Council had to do this and we don't know at this stage if the scheme is confirmed or will it be going the IROPI route. When the plan for Barna is been reviewed it will have to reflect this project. It is a key strategic action based on legal advice.

Galway City Council is currently reviewing their plan and they will make provision for this project. Cllr. Cunniffe raised his concern that there was no detailed information on the scheme at the moment and there was the uncertainty on how it would proceed. It is a major vital project and vital that it proceeds to construction to allow the city to develop. Cllr. Kearney raised the issue of the number of houses been affected by the scheme and asked for provision be made for them at planning stage in the future and no restraints put on them. Cllr. Cuddy agreed it was a major concern and asked could a variation be made in the County Development Plan to accommodate it. C. Mc Connell stated that the

CPO was not confirmed yet we would deal with the matter on a case by case basis and there was no need for a change of policy.

#### **Update on Development Contribution Scheme.**

C. Mc Connell informed the meeting that the Scheme went before the full Council in November and it would be on public display until 19 Feb and no submissions were received to date. It is hoped to put it before the Council on 29<sup>th</sup> February for formal approval before it becomes effective.

Cllr. Cuddy stated that he had made a submission and C. Mc Connell stated that she would check out the matter and come back to him.

#### **Update on Community Programme 2016-Age Friendly Initiative, Bealtaine, Culture Week, etc & CSSS Scheme Deadlines.**

Kieran Coyne gave a presentation to the Meeting on the above Projects. He stated that there was a Committee in Galway County Council and they were dealing with a large volume of work. The deadline for the CSSS scheme was Thursday week and they tried to run the project as fluidly as previous years. Culture Night is scheduled for Friday September 16 and Bealtaine Week is also in the planning stage. Attendance at the public meetings for the CSSS scheme was down 30 to 40% on last year. C. Mc Connell informed the meeting that Galway County Council received money last year that was not drawn down the previous year. This policy was introduced in 2014 and was very positive in ensuring that all funding was spent. Cllr. Donohue requested a list of PPN registered groups and C. Mc Connell informed him that it would be made available to him. K. Coyne asked the members to be aware of DIASPRO Tourist Project just been announced and the closing date was 11<sup>th</sup> March. He will be sending a link on the scheme to the members.

#### **AOB**

The chairperson thanked the Members for their contribution and closed the meeting.

C. Mc Connell stated that the next meeting would take place at the end of April or early May and she would confirm it with the members at a later stage.