

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

**Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Locha Riach
Municipal District of LOUGHREA**

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held
at Loughrea Regional Office, on 9th February 2017 @ 11.00 am.**

I LATHAIR:

Leas Cathaoirleach:

Cllr. Shane Donnellan

Baill:

Cllr's M. Fahy, J. Byrne, M Maher, I Canning, P Hynes.

Oifigigh:

Mr J Cullen, Director of Services;
Mr M Timmons, A/Director of Services;
Mr D Mitchell, S.E. Roads & Transportation;
Ms M Ni Chionna, S.E. Roads & Transportation;
Mr E Mulryan, A/S.E.E. Roads & Transportation;
Mr E Gallagher, A/S.E.E. Roads & Transportation;
Mr B Sheehy, A/Executive Engineer;
Mr F McGillicuddy, A/Executive Engineer;
Ms N Heffernan, A.O. Roads & Transportation;
Ms Mairin Doddy, Conservation Officer;
Ms Marian Donohue, S.S.O Planning;
Mr. P. Carroll, Meetings Administrator;
Ms. P. McHugo, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies

Apologies from Cllr McClearn who was unable to attend.

Sympathy

On behalf of the elected members, the Leas Cathaoirleach extended his sympathies to the Crotty family on the death of John, former Deputy County Engineer, Galway County Council.

**Confirmation of Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Municipal District of Loughrea
held on 12th January 2017**

LMD17006

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Loughrea M.D. held on 12th January 2017 were proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Maher and agreed and signed by the Leas Cathaoirleach.

Flooding Update

Arising from the Minutes, Mr Gallagher updated the meeting as follows:-

Two meetings have been held to date with the OPW, concerning the briefs for engaging both Engineering and Ecological Consultants for the Project. It is anticipated that the tender for these contracts will issue in March and the Consultants will be in place by July 2017. GCC will be undertaking the tender process.

Meetings and discussions have also taken place with Geological Surveys of Ireland, who will be providing geological and hydraulic modelling information for the project. Works have commenced on combining previous model databases with recently commissioned topographical surveys to improve the modelled data for the project.

There will be six stages to the project with a tentative date of mid 2020 to have a contractor on site. The local Area Office will continue to deal with any emergency flooding issues that arise before the project has been completed.

In the immediate future, project briefs will be put out to tender and local data collection will commence with the assistance of the South Galway Flood Relief Committee.

It is proposed to provide the next update to the Loughrea M.D. in August/September following the engagement of the consultants.

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr's Hynes and Maher enquired if there was any response from Fáilte Ireland regarding the Loop from the Wild Atlantic Way. Cllr Hynes had received representations from Dartfield Equestrian Centre, to be included in the Loop. Mr Mitchell stated that a meeting was taking place to-day with Fáilte Ireland and he would provide a minute of the meeting to Cllr Hynes.

In response to Cllr. Canning, Ms Ni Chionna stated that the Portumna Marina would possibly be opened in April 2017 by the Minister. The issue of the extended hours for a Caretaker and a budget for the operation and maintenance of the marina was currently being looked at. Cllr. Maher requested that a contingency budget be allocated for the Long Point, Loughrea should the season start earlier in the year.

Municipal District Schedule of Works (inc. roads programme)

LMD 17007

Mr Timmons, Mr Mitchell and Mr Mulryan presented the Loughrea M.D. with a Draft Schedule of Works 2017, including the Roads Programme. Mr Timmins informed the MD that the grant allocated by Transport Infrastructure Ireland for the Motorway & National Roads for the year was €21,601,195 which represented a 22% increase on the 2016 allocation. €20,395,647 is assigned to Improvement works and €1,205,548 for Maintenance Works. This allocation did not include the ongoing works to the M7/ M18 project. Mr. Mitchell informed the meeting that the grant allocated for Regional and local Roads was €19,576,451 an increase of 5% on the 2016 allocation. €16, 753,091 is allocated to improvement works and €2,823,360 for maintenance. Mr. Mitchell proceeded to give a breakdown of the grant allocations as listed in the program.

Mr. Mulryan proceeded to discuss the individual Improvement works allocations as listed in the roads works program and a discussion was had following this presentation. Mr Mitchell thanked the staff of the Loughrea M.D. for their contribution in the preparation of the programme.

The Draft Municipal District Schedule of Works 2017, including the Roads Programme 2017 was proposed by Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Hynes and agreed.

Declaration of a road to be a public road – Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993

LMD 17008

The Declaration of a road commencing at its junction with L4327 in the townland of Portumna Demesne and extending south, then meandering in a westerly direction for a total length of 867 m ending at the Water Treatment Plant gates in the townland of Portumna Demesne to be a public road was proposed by Cllr. Canning, seconded by Cllr. Hynes and agreed.

Proposed Addition to the RPS

LMD 17009

Ms. Doddy advised that the proposed additions and proposed deletions are currently on public display until Friday 17th February 2017 at 4 pm. She advised that any comment/observation could be made on this proposed addition until this date.

Ms Doddy advised that there was one proposed addition within the Loughrea MD Area and it was a thatch house in the townland of Cloosh, Kinvara. She said it was a detached four bay single storey vernacular house, built c. 1850. Ms Doddy confirmed that the owner had been notified of the proposed addition and a submission was received from the owner which raised no objection.

Cllr. Byrne said that he agreed with the proposed addition once the owner was consulted and was in agreement with same. Cllr. Byrne said that in respect of the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) that homeowners are concerned about inclusion of their properties on the RPS in case that it would affect future alterations being made to their property. He said that he has advised owners that a Section 57 Declaration can be requested.

In reply to Cllr Byrne, Ms Doddy said that a Section 57 Notice under the Planning & Development Act can be requested from an owner at any time and there is no cost associated with this request. She explained that a Declaration under S. 57 of the Planning & Development Act could be drawn up to clarify what is of special interest within the building, however this can only be undertaken when the building is included on the RPS. She also confirmed that she is available to answer any questions that owners/occupiers may have regarding properties on the RPS.

The proposed addition of a thatch house in the townland of Cloosh, Kinvara was proposed by Cllr. Byrne, seconded by Cllr Canning and agreed.

Cathaoirleach's Business

LMD 17010

Mr Mitchell informed Cllr. Maher that the Council were currently formulating a policy regarding the allocation of NOM monies to public lighting, in particular his request to have a

light costed at Mullagh Church. Mr Mulryan confirmed for Cllr. Maher that he would have the issue of land flooded at Kilnadeema looked at again.

Mr Timmons confirmed for Cllr. Byrne that improvement works at the junction at Tooreen Cross would be expedited. In response to Cllr. Byrne's concerns regarding sight lines at Henleys Cross, Mr Mulryan stated that he would take a look at the existing Traffic Management Plan at that location. He will also provide an estimate for works at Doorus in which a CIS should be submitted. Mr Carroll confirmed for Cllr. Byrne that he would request Ms Doddy to inspect the damaged walls at Kilmacduagh Tower and Graveyard. Cllr. Canning requested CCTV for the Swimming Area in Portumna, where illegal dumping was occurring. Mr Cullen confirmed that a clean up of the area would be carried out and the issue of CCTV looked at.

Mr Carroll stated for Cllr. Byrne that the CCTV for the Bottle Banks in Gort would also be looked at.

Cllr. Donnellan thanked the Environment Section for the provision of dog fouling signs in Loughrea and stated that it was having a positive impact. He also welcomed the positive news of the commencement of the new Gael Scoil in Loughrea in February 2017.

In response to Cllr Donnellan's query on the Town Hall, Mr Cullen stated that there was still no update on the grant application. He also confirmed for Cllr. Maher that it was a reserved function of the Councillors to sell the Town Hall Site.

Cllr. Canning requested that the Loughrea M.D. acknowledge the entry of the Clarke Family, Mullagh in the Guinness Book of Records where 6 siblings from the family have reached the age of 100.

It was agreed that the next meeting of Loughrea Municipal District would take place on Thursday 9th March 2017.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIÚ ANSIN

Notices of Motion

Notice of Motion No. 7

LMD 17011

The following reply was given:-

While GCC will have this request raised with TII the present priority for both Galway County Council & the TII is to continue to direct available funding for the N18 towards the renewal & resurfacing of the existing route upon the completion of which the request for the construction of hard shoulders along the route between Kilcolgan & Kiltiernan can be revisited.

Notice of Motion No. 8

LMD 17012

The following reply was given:-

The request for reduction of speed limit on the N18 between Ardrahen & Labane will be raised with TII & other Stakeholder to include An Garda Siochana as part on the ongoing County Wide Speed Limit Review currently being undertaken by GCC.