

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 11th May 2017 @ 11.00 am.**

I LATHAIR:

Cathaoirleach:	Cllr. Jimmy McClearn
Baill:	Cllr's M. Fahy, J. Byrne, M Maher, I Canning, P Hynes, S Donnellan, G Finnerty,.
Oifigigh:	Mr. J. Cullen, D.O.S. Mr. M. Owens, A/D.O.S. Ms M Ni Chionna, S.E. Roads & Transportation; Mr. D. Mitchell S.E. Roads & Transportation; Mr E Mulryan, A/S.E.E. Roads & Transportation; Mr E Gallagher, A/S.E.E. Roads & Transportation; Mr F McGillicuddy, A/Executive Engineer; Mr. P. Carroll, Meetings Administrator.

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

LMD17024

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

Arising from the Minutes Cllr Byrne stated that a detailed submission for funding under the Clár programme has been submitted in respect of road safety works on the Gort to Tubber road. Responding to Cllr Finnerty, Mr McGillicuddy stated that a meeting has been arranged with Coillte regarding the condition of roads due to Coillte traffic. Mr Mitchell stated that a meeting will discuss putting a possible bond in place. Cllr. Fahy suggested that a low cost accident scheme be considered. Responding to Cllr. Maher, Mr. Mulryan stated that in relation to Kilmeen Cross, the signage alteration design for the junction was being completed by DNRDO & would proceed to installation in due course, GCC are awaiting formally approval from TII for resurfacing works on a section of the N65 on the Loughrea side of the junction as part of which GCC are raising the need with TII for a storm water drainage system to be installed in conjunction with proposed resurfacing works.

Flooding Update

LMD 17025

Mr. Gallagher updated the meeting on flooding. He stated that draft documents for the engineering and environmental briefs were forwarded to the OPW and Trinity College last month. Trinity College have recently referred them back with additional comments. The OPW have informed Mr. Gallagher that EU environmental legislation is being transposed into Irish law in the very near future and that the legislation will have to be accommodated in the briefs. This may cause a minor delay in the preparation of the documents.

Mr. Gallagher has commenced site meetings with members of the SGFRC. He has met a large number of the groups already and will complete the initial meetings in the next week or so. The members have been identifying all issues that have affected them. He will be returning to the sites to take GPS levels over the next few months and will be contacting groups when he's back on site to confirm details.

Portumna Marina – Bye Laws

LMD 17026

Ms. Ni Chionna informed the Members that the Law Agent had recommended an amendment to the draft Bye Laws based on a recent court case. She advised that the process of public consultation will take at least two months. Cllr. Canning stated that the Council are losing money as there are no bye laws in place to enforce collection of charges. Cllr. McClearn stated that Members have to respect the legal advice given but questioned whether bye laws were needed to implement charges. Cllr. Canning stated that signage was required as you approach the Marina.

Director's Business

LMD 17027

Mr. Owens D.O.S. Housing informed Members of the proposed development at Craughwell Halting Site to accommodate the needs of existing families on site. A design team has been appointed and the Council will now proceed to Part 8 approval. All Members welcomed this development.

Cathaoirleach's Business

LMD 17028

A deputation had been received prior to the meeting from LARK relating to the future of the Town Hall in Loughrea. On the proposal of Cllr, Fahy, seconded by Cllr, Canning it was agreed to set up a working group to see how progress may be made on the Town Hall development. The group would comprise of the executive, Members and LARK and the Members nominated were Cllr's McClearn, Donnellan, Maher and Hynes. Cllr. McClearn asked if funding could be applied for under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Mr. Cullen agreed to check but stressed that the level of detail has to be quite developed to be considered. He added that it was now an opportune time to adopt a fresh approach by having another section of the Council examine the potential for the Town Hall development.

Cllr. Finnerty referred to the continuing illegal encampment in Gort and asked if they were going to be moved by the Council. Mr McGillycuddy replied that there are discussions

ongoing with the Gardai and that the matter of their housing need was being examined by housing section Mr. Mulryan confirmed to Cllr Donnellan that the issue of overhanging trees at the Town Hall was been examined & referred to Corporate Services. Cllr. Fahy asked that branches be cut down at No. 3, Cobbles, Crowe Street, Gort. Mr Mitchell stated that the Council were attempting to have the estate taken in charge and he will follow up on this. Cllr. Byrne referred to the Rebuilding Ireland Programme and asked how could land for housing be identified if facilities are not in place. Mr Owens advised that the land included some owned by the Council as well as State lands. He stated that the Department favoured small scale development and the Council needed to examine the concentration of social housing in each area. He hoped to have a number of projects prepared for submission from the preparation of the 2018-2020 Housing Strategy. Cllr. Donnellan asked that the Council write to Irish Water seeking return of lands at Longpoint for use as a facility for the people of Loughrea. Mr. Cullen suggested identifying the proposed cycle route on a map and discuss locally with Irish Water the return of that stretch of land and to look at the return of the remainder of the land at a later date.

It was agreed that the AGM of the Loughrea MD would take place on Thursday 8th June 2017 at 11 am to be followed by the monthly meeting.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIÚ ANSIN

Notices of Motion

Notice of Motion No. 6

LMD 17029

The following reply was given:

The Ballybaun section will be considered for speed limit review this year when the county wide review takes place.

Notice of Motion No. 7

LMD 17030

The following reply was given:

A Stop Sign has been ordered and received and will be erected forthwith at that location in the next few days.

Notice of Motion No. 8

LMD 17031

The following reply was given:

The responsibility for the provision of Bus Shelters at Bus Stop locations rests with the National Transport Authority (NTA) & not Galway County Council. In this regard GCC have made unsuccessful requests to the NTA regarding the provision of Bus Shelters in Craughwell Village the most recent of which was in late 2015. In this regard while GCC will continue to liaise with the NTA regarding the provision of such Shelters in Craughwell the decision of whether such shelter will be provided rest solely with the NTA having due regard to their policy criteria regarding their provision

Notice of Motion No. 9

LMD 17032

The following reply was given:

There are CE/FAS scheme personnel currently working at Kilthomas under GCC direction rebuilding walls. They are expected to be there for some weeks yet. An additional dedicated specific CE/FAS scheme for Kilthomas would be welcome

Notice of Motion No. 10

LMD 17033

The following reply was given:

Any authorised improvement works at Drumacoo cemetery have been completed. This involved entrance improvements in 2015 (roadway, gate piers, fencing) and also some minor groundworks in 2016 (levelling for parking; removal of modern spoil mound). All of this work was done with Ministerial Consent (C633) and under archaeological supervision. I am not aware of any further plans for extra works here. Some unauthorised works were

carried out last year in the grounds adjacent. If Cllr Fahy wishes to discuss this further, the area engineer will be happy to meet him.