

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, 8th March 2018 @ 11 a.m.

I LATHAIR:

Cathaoirleach

Cllr. Ivan Canning

Baill:

Cllr's M. Fahy, J. Byrne, P Hynes, S Donnellan, M. Maher,

Oifigigh:

Mr. J. Cullen, D.O.S.
Mr D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer;
Mr E. Gallagher, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr E Mulryan, A/S.E.E. Roads & Transportation;
Mr F McGillicuddy, A/Executive Engineer;
Mr. B. Sheehy, A/Executive Engineer;
Mr. P. Carroll, Meetings Administrator;
Ms. P. McHugo, Assistant Staff Officer.

Apologies

Apologies from Cllr's McClearn and Finnerty who were unable to attend.

Sympathy

A vote of sympathy was proposed by Cllr Fahy, seconded by Cllr Maher to extend the elected members sympathies to the family of the former Loughrea Town Commissioner, Sean Kelly, R.I.P.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Municipal District of Loughrea held on 11th January 2018

LMD 18014

The Minutes of the monthly Meeting of the Loughrea M.D. held on 22nd February 2018 were proposed by Cllr Fahy, seconded by Cllr Byrne and agreed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Arising from the Minutes and in reply to Cllr Hynes query regarding the presentation on the Dublin Galway Greenway, Mr Cullen stated that the Department are in the process of issuing guidelines on a Greenway strategy across the country and it would be very important that consideration be given to these guidelines in advance of any further action.

In reply to Cllr's Byrne and Fahy regarding dumping at Glenbrack and Kiniska Road, Gort, Mr Carroll stated that there was a IT security issue with the downloading of information from cameras at present and which needed to be resolved. Mr Mitchell also replied to Cllr Fahy's query regarding footpath on the hardshoulder between Labane and Ardrahan, stating that this area was not within the speed limits and therefore no footpath would be provided. In reply to Cllr Fahy's request for CCTV at the Gort Public Convenience, Mr Mulryan stated that a costing for same would be sought. Mr Mulryan confirmed for Cllr Hynes that no parking signs would be provided at Leitrim burial ground.

Cllr Hynes advised that at the meeting with the T.I.I. attended by himself and Cllr. McClearn and others about the provision of traffic route lighting at Kilmeen Cross the TII stated that such lighting would not be provided but that junction improvements and surfacing works would be carried out. He said that this was a disappointing outcome. Mr Cullen stated that he attended the meeting also and that Cllrs McClearn and Hynes couldn't have been more forceful in putting the case and even if the lighting isn't being approved the junction improvement works are to be implemented. He said he would like to see this happen as quickly as possible.

In reply to Cllr Byrne's query regarding a cycle way between Kinvarra and Kilcolgan, Mr Mitchell stated that there was no funding at present.

Flooding Update

LMD 18015

Mr Gallagher informed the meeting that the Local Stakeholder meeting was held in Gort on 27th February. In attendance were Cllr. Byrne, Cllr. Fahy, members of the SGFRC and representatives from Cuan Beo (shellfish farmers). Ryan Hanley gave a presentation on the entire scheme and concentrated on Stage 1 of the scheme that is to be completed in the next 12 months. Stage 1 involves the Cost Benefit Analysis and the development of initial scheme proposals. An open and wide ranging discussion followed the presentation. All parties expressed satisfaction with the engagement.

On the 6th March, Mott MacDonald were appointed as Environmental Consultants for the project and attended the Steering Group Meeting scheduled for that day. They will commence desktop studies immediately and engagement with statutory stakeholders will be a priority.

Mr. Gallagher outlined that the model that is being developed by Trinity College Dublin to assist in this project is far more complicated than standard models that have been developed previously to deal with areas prone to fluvial (river) flooding. The modelling associated with four large rivers inputs, multiple turloughs, differing rainfall patterns and diffuse underground flows will prove challenging. The model is required to determine cost benefit, the effectiveness of proposals and eventually, appropriate planning restrictions.'

Directors Business

LMD 18016

Mr Cullen and Mr Mitchell thanked all the staff of GCC for their work during the recent Storm Emma. All elected members agreed that the Council gave great service to the people of the County for the duration of the storm. Mr Mitchell confirmed that extra funding was being sought to cover the costs of the storm clean up.

Cathaoirleachs Business

LMD 18017

Cllr. Byrne referred to his motion at the February Council meeting calling on the Council to carry out an analysis on the number of householders who have contracts with licensed waste collectors and whose findings should be assessed versus the number of houses registered for local property tax. Following a general discussion on illegal dumping throughout the County, Mr Cullen stated that Cllrs Byrne's proposal was welcome but noted it would require primary legislation to enable the use of data such as property tax registrations to be used for cross checking against other data held for different purposes. He said a lot of progress had been made with the Anti- Dumping Initiative and this scheme would be continuing in 2018. He said strengthening of national laws are required to combat illegal dumping.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Municipal District would take place on Thursday 19th April 2018.

CHRIOGHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN