

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Locha Riach *Municipal District of LOUGHREA*

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held at Loughrea Regional Office, 13th September 2018 @ 11 a.m.

I LATHAIR:

Cathaoirleach

Cllr. J. Byrne

Baill:

Cllr's M. Fahy, S Donnellan, M. Maher, I. Canning, J McClearn, P. Hynes

Oifigigh:

Mr J. Cullen. D.O.S. Roads & Transportation;
Mr. E. Mulryan, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr. E. Gallagher, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr Feidhlim McGillicuddy, Executive Engineer
Mr. B. Sheehy, A/Executive Engineer;
Mr. P Carroll, Meetings Administrator

Apologies

Apologies from Cllr Finnerty who was unable to attend.

Resolution of Sympathy

A resolution of sympathy was extended to Ms. Pauline McHugo and family on the passing of her sister Mairead Rafferty – Connors.

A resolution of sympathy was extended to Cllr. Pat Hynes on the passing of his partner's brother Oliver Gordon.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held on 12th July 2018

LMD 18043

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held on 12th July 2018 were proposed by Cllr Canning, seconded by Cllr Fahy and agreed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr. Canning sought an update on the removal of rubbish from Sandymount Estate, Killimor. Mr. Carroll read a response received from Ms Ellen Mongan Traveller Liaison and Development Officer, Housing Department. She stated that the estate has been problematic in the past around the issue of waste management and that this is an estate that receives regular monitoring to ensure compliance with good estate

management. A follow up is due on this estate next week. Cllr. Canning stated that he was not satisfied with the response, that the issues with this estate has been ongoing for some time and that there must be rules in place for proper management of this estate. Cllr. McClearn stated that there were a number of ongoing issues of concern other than waste, including anti -social behaviour and the Housing Department were giving attention to that estate. Cllr Maher stated that there were similar issues of concern at Garrybreeda and proposed that an official from the Housing Department be asked to attend the next meeting of the municipal district to address these and other issues. His proposal was seconded by Cllr Canning and agreed. It was agreed that Members prepare a list of issues to be submitted by Members to Mr Carroll who will forward them to the Housing Department. Responding to Cllr. Fahy Mr Mulryan stated that there were limited resources to deal with Ragwort on public roads but that isolated incidents will be investigated and costed for removal and Members are entitled to put some of their Notice of Motion monies towards the removal of ragwort.

Flooding Update

LMD 18044

Mr. Gallagher updated the meeting as follows: -

South Galway Gort Lowlands FRS – LiDAR laser flight surveys of the study area to be completed by November, threshold surveys in Clonteen, Caherwoneen and Ardahan areas to be completed following receipt of LiDAR outputs. The TCD model is approximately five months behind the original schedule so the Feasibility study and report will be delayed until May 2019. Works have commenced on the salinity model for Kinvarra. Following submissions at the Public Information Day, a report is being prepared on the benefits of attenuating and diverting water in the highlands.

Dunkellin – OPW works in Craughwell are progressing well. The collapse of the Dunkellin Bridge is being examined and proposals are being circulated between numerous parties (Tobin's, RPS, Architectural Conservationist, Planners etc.) on how best to progress proposals for the site. An update on the proposals is to be presented at the next municipal district meeting.

Kiltiernan / Ballinderreen – following recent agreement with landowners, an order has been placed for culverts for the Ballinderreen section of these works. Works are due to commence on site within a fortnight. Rising water levels may limit the extent of works that can be undertaken on the scheme in 2018.

Minor Works Programme – further to queries that arose at the July meeting, Enda confirmed that the OPW had refused initial proposals for the piped drain at Rafarn (Loughrea), because water was being directed to a swallow hole. The area office is now examining the issue. The OPW have recently allocated €108k towards works at Sliabhcarra (Gort). The works include 350m of piping along the emergency excavation of 2015 and the connection of estate soakpit to this new pipe. In Roo (Kinvarra), JBA consultants have confirmed that the AA cannot be screened out for the proposed culvert and drain works. A Natura Impact Statement is required for the works and this is now being commissioned.'

Roads Funding

LMD 18045

Mr Mulryan stated that additional roads funding had been sought but that there was no positive news to date on same. He confirmed that the hedgecutting programme will commence next week & will continue to years end subject to funding availability. He confirmed to members that there is insufficient maintenance funding available to trim all local roads within the LMD. Cllr. McClearn stated that the proposed 2019 to 2021 Multi

Annual Roads Programme will have to recognise the revised Municipal District Boundary's as recommended in the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee Report of 2018 to ensure that members of the Municipal District can fully consider all roads for potential inclusion in such a programme that shall form part of the Municipal District post the 2019 Local Elections. Mr Cullen stated that the intention is to prepare the MAP on the basis of the new electoral area boundaries, that the MAP is for the whole of the county and that assessment will be based on the condition of the road and not the district it is in. The realignment of engineering areas will take longer to complete. On the proposal of Cllr. Mc Cleary, seconded by Cllr. Maher the members agreed the following proposal "In framing a multi annual road program recognition be taken of the revised Council Area".

Declaration of a road to be a public road – Section 11 of Roads Act 1983.

The Paddocks, Killimor.

LMD 18046

The Declaration of a road to be a public road, details as follows, was proposed by Cllr. McCleary, seconded by Cllr. Maher and agreed:-

Point A-B on TIC Map:

- Road commencing at Point A, at its junction with L4322 in the townland of Magheramore and extending West for a distance of 89m and ending at Point B in the townland of Magheramore .

Cathaoirleach's Business

LMD 18047

Mr Mulryan confirmed for Cllr. Maher that a list of 29 LIS schemes were submitted for funding by the LMD and funding was approved for 8 schemes. He also confirmed to Cllr. Maher that works on the section of the N65 from Killmeen Cross towards Loughrea are expected to commence in early 2019 following the completion of the scheme design & procurement phases. He confirmed that loose manhole covers in Loughrea Town for which the Council are responsible have been reset where required while ones not in the ownership of the Council will be referred on to the appropriate utility for inspection & rectification. Cllr. Mc Cleary welcomed the works done on Kilmeen to Portumna road section but that there was a need for a protective barrier along the road verges following the raising of the road. He queried whether the design layout at Kilmeen junction was available for viewing. He stated that while the TII had refused installation of lights at Kilmeen, as it was viewed by TII as a rural isolated junction, he had seen 3 minor junctions outside the county at Roscrea and Birr that are all lit and questioned why the TII had allowed lighting at these junctions but not at Kilmeen. Cllr Canning asked that representations be made to TII for funding for safety barriers on the Kilmeen to Portumna road. Mr Mulryan stated that he will refer the question of verge protection and safety barriers to the TII to review the feasibility of installing barriers. He confirmed that TII had said that it will not provide a lighting scheme at Kilmeen junction. He will raise the question of the design at the N65 Kilmeen junction with the TII. Cllr. Fahy stated that additional directional signage for Gort is required at Sheehan's Cross resulting from revised junction layout resulting from M18 Motorway Construction works at this location. Cllr. Byrne stated that additional signage is required to direct road users existing the M18 Motorway at Kiltiernan for Kinvarra onwards to Kilcolgan & the N67 to Kinvarra as the current route using local roads via Killeenavara Cross is totally unsuitable.

He also queried the status of the speed limit review on local roads, that he had received representation that local roads speed limit be reduced from 80kph to 50kph. He also asked that "Slow Down" signs be put up on dangerous bends. Mr. Cullen stated that the closing date for submissions on the speed limit review was 7th September and that it is intended to bring the review before the October Meeting of Municipal Districts and to the full Council meeting in October. Cllr. Donnellan welcomed the provision of lighting at Corrysfeld and the Fairgreen. Cllr. Canning asked that temporary speed ramps be installed at Forest Glade and St Bridget's Road estate as there is a serious problem with cars driving at speed on these roads. Mr. Mulryan advised that the provision of a traffic calming scheme should be last rather than the first options considered when seeking to address anecdotal speeding concerns. Active speed enforcement by the appropriate authority coupled with a review of traffic volume & speed data & potential implementation of 30KPH Slow Zones should be the starting point. Cllr. Maher asked that the provision of a touch screen information kiosk be considered for places like The Plaza, which would be of great help to tourists visiting the county.

It was agreed that the monthly meeting of the Loughrea MD would take place on Thursday 11th October 2018 at 11 am.

CHRIOGHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIU ANSIN