

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Chonamara *Municipal District of Conamara*

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held at Arás na hOllscoile, NUI Center, Carna, Co Galway on 5th December, 2014 @2.30 p.m

ILATHAIR:

Baill: Cllrs. S. Walsh, E. Mannion, T. Welby, S. Ó Tuairisg, N. Thomas, S. Ó Cualáin, T Ó Cuarraoin, T. Healy.

Oifigigh: G.Mullarkey, Head of Finance
E. Molloy, Senior Engineer, Conamara
T.J Redmond, E.E Conamara North
K. Finn, E.E Conamara South
P.Breathnach S.E.E Conamara
S. Groarke, Meeting Administrator.

Minutes of the MDC Meetings held on the 17-9-2014.

CMD 14027

On the proposal of Comh. S. O'Tuairisg, seconded by Comh. S. O'Cualáin the Minutes of the meeting held on the 17-9-2014 were adopted. On the proposal of Comh. S. O'Tuairisg, seconded by Cllr. N. Thomas the Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 17-9-2014 were adopted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

Update on Storm Relief Measures .

CMD 14028

E. Molloy presented a list of 48 projects amounting to €3.3 million which referred to works being undertaken/about to be undertaken by the Council in regard to the repair of storm damage. He advised that the list referred to repairs to infrastructure such as roads, harbours, piers, footpaths, walls, graveyards and existing coastal protection measures. He stated that a number of large projects had commenced in regard to coastal protection measures on Inishbofin, Inis Mór, Inis Mheáin & Inis Oirr. He advised that the Council was concerned as regards the roll-over of funding allocations for projects that have to be carried over to 2015. He stated that the Council will require considerable more funding in 2015 as there was still a lot of repair work to be undertaken and advised that it had set up a panel of

Consultants in regard to recommendations on coastal protection works- it had also received tenders in regard to the completion of a coastal survey. He stated that the Council intended to use these reports to leverage funding from the various Government agencies. He explained that some projects cannot commence until the required statutory planning process is completed and the Council is also required to adhere to the statutory procurement requirements. He referred to the fact that the Council had received a funding allocation of €9.5 million last February in regard to the repair of storm damage for roads, piers & harbours, repair of existing coastal protection and tourism infrastructure as a result of a list of 175 works sent to the Department. He advised that many of these works referred to damage to private property and the Council had received instructions not to undertake works on non-public property. He also referred to a list of new coastal protection measures which the Council submitted which will require the approval of the OPW. Comh. S. O'Tuairisg enquired as to whether the funding allocation has to be spent before the end of 2014 and the extent of the cooperation from the OPW and NPWS. E. Molloy confirmed that the deadline for claims in 2014 was the 5-12-2014 and there was no problem with the cooperation from these bodies-the Council had worked with the OPW in the past on flood alleviation measures. Comh. T. O'Curraoin raised the problem associated with the blockage of drains on private lands as a result of the storm damage-he advised that much of the debris causing the blockage originated from marine infrastructure. E. Molloy acknowledged that this is a public issue associated with drains located on private land and the Council will raise the matter with the OPW. Cllr. E. Mannion advised that the Council had undertaken some good works to date and enquired about the situation at Gurteen Bay, Dog's Bay and Aillebrack. Comh. S. O'Cualáin also acknowledged the good work undertaken in certain areas and make enquiries concerning other locations-he stated that the funding should be rolled over to 2015. Cllr. T. Healy enquired about the Council's response plan in the event of another storm and the practical lessons learned as a result of the 2 previous storms. E. Molloy advised that the Council will examine the locations raised by the Councillors and that it does have a response plan in place which is subject to review. Cllr. S. Walsh on behalf of the Municipal Council expressed his appreciation to the Engineers and outdoor staff for the work undertaken to date.

Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads- Section 11 Roads Act 1993.

CMD 14029

On the proposal of Cllr. T. Welby, seconded by Cllr. S. Walsh the road commencing at the junction of the R336 in the Townland of Leathchartúr and extending south for a distance of 720 metres finishing at Ronan Griffin's house was declared to be a public road.

On the proposal of Cllr. E. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. S. Walsh the road commencing at the junction with the L5102 in the Townland of Tooreena (Ref:70460;261960) and extending north and northwest (Ref: 70210;262320) for a distance of 500 metres of the R336 in the Townland of Tooreena was declared to be a public road.

Casla Regional Water Supply Scheme

CMD 14030

Comh. S. O'Tuairisg advised that the reason he raised this matter was that the community at Casla wanted a regional water supply scheme but it was difficult to get information from Irish Water concerning the current position on this scheme. He stated that there was a problem with a high level of THMs in the current water supply and a more efficient system of informing the public was required. He advised that in the past there were proposals that

the water be sourced from Luimneach, Lake Boluisce or the Gleann Muireann Lake – he considered that this required a local source. Cllrs Thomas and Welby advised that they attended a meeting with Irish Water the previous Friday and found that the presentation was informative. They advised that Irish Water has assigned a liason officer who will provide a response to queries such as the current status of schemes. Cllr. T. Welby recommended that the Council organise a meeting with Irish Water in order to discuss its concerns and the current status of schemes.

Municipal District Director’s Business

CMD 14031

G. Mullarkey advised that the Council had received correspondence from the Fóram do Phobal Iorras Aithneach Carna following the meeting with their deputation on the 15-9-2014. Cllr. S. Walsh acknowledged that he had also received a copy of this correspondence.

Cathaoirleach’s Business

CMD 14032

Cllr. Walsh requested the elected members to raise any matters of concern. Comh. O’Cualáin proposed that the Council erect directional signage for beaches and other local tourism facilities along the Wild Atlantic Way and this was seconded by Cllr. Welby. Cllr. Mannion welcomed the funding in regard to the Marconi point and the Alcock and Brown historical site as part of the Wild Atlantic Way. She also referred to the need for bi-lingual signage at Gurteen Bay and Dog’s Bay. Cllr. Thomas raised his concerns about safety measures outside schools and the need for more LED school warning lights for schools such as An Baile Nua. Cllr. Welby referred to the need for such measures for Tooreeny NS and Cllr. Mannion advised that all the Councillors received e-mails concerning the school on the Barna Road, Moycullen. Cllr. Healy referred to the need for a standard approach in regard to school safety measures when they are being built. Cllr. Welby requested an update on the Clooniffe section of the N59 and the need to replace the broken white line at Gowlan with a straight line. Comh. O’Curraoin and Comh O’Tuairisg referred to the various speed limits of 50 km, 60km and 80km along the N59 Coast Road and stated that they cause confusion for drivers. They enquired as to whether the NRA had the final say on the matter. Cllr. Welby referred to the fact that there was an 80km speed limit on sideroads approaching the N59 which has speed limits of 50km and 60km- there was a need to reduce some of the 80km speed limits. E. Molloy advised that due to the fact that the Coast Road had a lot of access roads –there was a requirement for the various speed limits in regard to road safety-the solution to the problem in his view was the erection of more repeater speed limit signs. In regard to the provision of more school flashing lights he stated that the Council had provided these in the past at 180 schools but does not currently have adequate funding for the additional requirements-he advised that in his view the Department of Education should make a contribution towards this. He stated that Ciaran Wynne SEE had a meeting with the principal of Tooreeny school to discuss the requirement for the lights. In regard to the safety modifications required for the N59 Clooniffe road which have been sought by the community at Moycullen-he advised that the Council has consulted the NRA in order to provide a solution to the problem.

AOB

CMD 14033

Cllr. T. Welby referred to the open night planned for the restored Oughterard Courthouse on the following Monday.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN