

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Chonamara **Municipal District of Conamara**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held in the Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Galway on the 9th January 2017 @ 3.00 p.m

I LATHAIR:

Baill:

Cllrs. N. Thomas Cathaoirleach,
S. Walsh, S. Ó Cualáin, S. O'Tuairisg
T Ó Cuarraoin, N. Byrne, T. Welby

Oifigigh:

G. Mullarkey, Head of Finance
D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer Roads
P. Breathnach, S.E.E Conamara
T.J Redmond, Area Engineer, N. Conamara
J. Coyle, Area Engineer, S. Conamara
N. Heffernan, AO Roads
S. Groarke, Meetings Administrator

Apologies:

Cllr. E. Mannion
Cllr. T. Healy

1. Scope & Quality of the Works –Seanapheastín Road **CMD 17001** **Spending of the Allocated Funding**

Cllr. N. Thomas referred to the meeting with the delegation from Seanapheastín who raised their concerns that the works required to reinstate the Seanapheastín Road following the development of the windfarm by SSE Renewables/ Roadbridge were not completed properly and that more work was required to complete it to an acceptable standard. They requested the Council to address their concerns in regard to the following:

1. The laybys/verges were not finished properly and the Council should undertake to fill them in. They considered that this would not be a big job.
2. A section of approximately 1 km of the 5km was not reinstated.
3. This is an issue with potholes forming on the road.

4. A section of the road which was completed by the contractors is crumbling at the edges.
5. The Council would need to do a survey of the present condition of the road surface.

D. Mitchell advised that due to the fact that there were 2 separate planning applications involved –the Council received 2 allocations to reinstate the road. The first allocation amounted to €400,000 of which €429,000 is spent to date –the second allocation amounts to €108,000 which can only be used when the windfarm is completed and is provided for the 1.3 km stretch between the Seecon and the Lettercraffroe windfarm entrances in order for a final surface to be put on it. He explained that the €29,000 extra spent on the first allocation will have to come out of the second allocation leaving a balance of €79,000 to complete the work. He referred to the fact that the original agreement with SSE covered circa 5km between Larkin’s Quarry (Conamara Granite) and Cloosh Gate -but the Council was able to get 9.5 km done with the first allocation. He stated that work was still ongoing at the windfarm and that there were still heavy loads on the 1.3km stretch. He advised that the Council got good value in regard to the distance reinstated and that he was satisfied with the condition of the road. Cllr. S. Walsh stated that if the laybys were lower than the road then a small amount of fill would be required to raise them –a few lorry loads of material and a digger was all that was required and would not be a big budget item. He requested the Council to do the laybys as soon as possible in order to make the road safe. Cllr. T. Welby advised that the local community had to put up with a lot of heavy traffic and expected that the road would be repaired to a good standard and he requested the engineers to look at the verges. Councillors N. Thomas & S. Walsh stated that there was a difference in the standard of the work in regard to two sections of the road-the section between the windfarm site to Oughterard was done to a better standard. Cllr. N. Byrne also requested the Council officials to look at the laybys and stated that there were queries concerning the banking undertaken to the south of the works. D. Mitchell confirmed that the Council will make an assessment of the works when the 1.3 km section is completed. He stated that the road was in a far better condition than what it was. In regard to the difference between the sections of the road-he advised that the work was undertaken by the same contractor RMS using the same method of construction. There are obvious problems concerning undertaking works on a boggy surface -similar to what the Council experienced on the Screeb road. The laybys are also on boggy ground and the banking refers to drainage issues undertaken outside the area. He stated that he considered the surface to be reasonable given the conditions. He confirmed that he will look at the issues raised by the elected members and come back to them.

8. Any Other Business

CMD 17002

In response to a query from the elected members-S. Groarke advised that the next meeting will be held in February as soon as the Roads Department have confirmed that the 2017 Roads Program is completed.

CROCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN