

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT BALLINASLOE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICE, COUNCIL CHAMBER, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, at 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Finnerty

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Cllrs. T. Broderick, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, A. Donohue, D. Burke

Oifigigh: Ms. C. McConnell A/Director of Services, Mr. L. Gavin, Director of Services, Mr. John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Mr. A. Headd, A/ Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Adrian Grandison, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn A/Graduate Engineer, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Sr. M. Genevieve O'Brien, Mercy Convent, Loughrea, Co. Galway R.I.P
Frank Carroll, Perssepark, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway R.I.P

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 15th July, 2015

MDB14084

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on the 15th July, 2015 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Donohue.

Matters arising from the Minutes

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to Minute No. MDB14076 Page 1, Mr. Headd advised that it is expected that Roscommon County Council would commence works at Derrycahill Bridge in September, 2015.

With reference to Minute No. MDB14076 Page 2, discussion took place with regard to the progression of Phase 1 of the Ballinasloe Main Drainage Advance Scheme. In response to Cllr. Donohue, Ms. McConnell stated that she would seek clarification as to whether or not there is a compensation fund available to assist local businesses whose business has been disrupted as

a result of the advancement of works on Phase 1 of the Ballinasloe Main Drainage Advance Scheme.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to Minute No. MDB14076 Page 1, Mr. Headd advised that he had contacted the OPW and is awaiting feedback with regard to the obligations if any that are placed on Insurance Companies to reduce insurance premiums for householders in areas where flood alleviation measures have taken place. Mr. Leahy stated that it would be unusual for the OPW or the County Council to get involved in such matters.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly and with reference to Minute No. MDB14078 Page 5, Ms. McConnell explained that the Council does not have the authority to change Flood Risk Areas as identified by OPW but she stated that if necessary the Council has the power to change the zoning of a site. Ms. McConnell also advised that the CFRAM maps would replace the interim Stage 2 Strategic Flood Risk Management Report.

With reference to MDB14079 Page 6, Cllr M. Connolly acknowledged the work done by Mr. Brian Barrett and his Team in the preparation of the Local Economic and Community Plan – Socio Economic Statement for County Galway and he stated that that the IDA need to be invited back to a Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe with a view to discussing future plans for job creation for the town of Ballinasloe.

PRESENTATION ON GREENWAY – GALWAY TO DUBLIN

MDB14085

Cllr. Broderick expressed dissatisfaction with the consultation process involved in the selection of the Preferred Route Corridor Cycleway Route and he left the meeting.

Mr. Gavin advised that the Galway to Dublin Cycleway was a Pilot Project and would form part of the international EuroVelo network of long-distance cycling trails in Europe. The authorities involved he advised are The National Roads Authority, The National Trails Office and Failte Ireland and the project he stated would involve the partnership of Galway City Council and Dublin City Council and the County Councils for Galway, Roscommon, Westmeath, Meath and Kildare.

Mr. Gavin advised that the preferred route was decided on following a number of Public Consultations and that there is ongoing liaison with the landowners affected by the preferred route. The ongoing liaison with the landowners he advised deals with the landowners concerns; individual specific concerns; ascertaining opinions with regard to routes and getting their views with regard to their support or opposition in principle to the project. Mr. Gavin stated that consultation has taken place with approximately 200 landowners along the Preferred Route Corridor and that a Report on the discussions will be due in mid September 2015. Mr. Gavin advised that to date the main concerns expressed by the landowners include issues with regard to: farm severance, security, privacy, insurance and nuisance.

Mr. Gavin stated that it is expected that this Cycleway will bring huge economic and social benefits both nationally and to County Galway and asked that the members would support the positivity of the project.

Cllrs. Donohue, M. Connolly and D. Connolly all expressed concerns on behalf of the farmers affected by this proposed Cycleway Project and requested that additional routes be investigated which would cause less disruption overall. Cllr. Burke expressed support for the Cycleway Project and asked that the matter of using local/minor roads be assessed which in turn he stated could benefit villages within the County. Cllr. Finnerty stated that it would be very positive if the Battle of Aughrim Interpretative Centre was to form part of route.

Mr. Gavin advised that: the EIS process would not commence until the final route was decided; discussions with landowners were progressing and the issue of CPO would only be considered as a last resort. Mr. Gavin also stated that representatives from the Council had been treated with courtesy and respect by all of the landowners involved.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB14086

No business arising

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB14087

Cllr. Finnerty asked for clarification as to whether the Town Clock at St. Johns Church, Ballinasloe is the property and responsibility of Galway County Council or the Church of Ireland.

Cllr. Finnerty requested clarification with regard to the provision of a Chain of Office for the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.

All of the members congratulated the Staff of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe for their work in organizing the homecoming celebrations in Ballinasloe for the Galway Senior and Galway Minor Hurling Teams. The members also congratulated the Galway Minor Hurling Team on their success in winning the 2015 All-Ireland Minor Hurling Championship Final.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB14088

Discussion took place with regard to the closure of Ballinasloe Community Creche and all of the members expressed disappointment at its closure with resulting loss of jobs.

In response to Cllr. Donoghue regarding recent flooding at St. Michaels Square, Ballinasloe Mr. Headd advised that this matter is being examined by Galway County Council and the Consultants. Mr. Headd also stated that interim steps have been taken to address the issue.

In response to Cllr. Donohue with regard to the condition of the hard shoulder on the old N6, (R446) Mr. Headd stated that he would examine same.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard to the issue where a public road overlaps two or more Electoral Areas, Mr. Headd asked that any such matters be referred directly to the Area Offices' who in turn he advised would refer the issue/s to the relevant Municipal Districts

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard to the issue of the use of land parcels located adjacent to the N6, Mr. Gavin asked that specific requests in relation to this matter be brought directly to the attention of Mr. Headd.

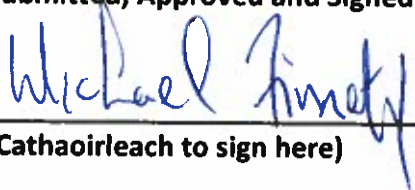
Cllr. M. Connolly asked that the issue of ragwort growing on the side of public roads be raised with the NRA.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that there is no funding available for the provision of footpaths at Beechlawn and Poolboy Junction.

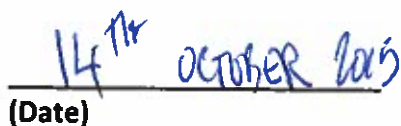
Cllr. Finnerty advised that the Ballinasloe Fair & Festival Committee has brought forward the Fireworks Display to 7p.m on Friday, 9th October, 2015 in order to accommodate families attending.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)



(Date)