

**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 12th April, 2017 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:**

Cllr. D. Burke

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:**

Cllrs. M. Connolly, A. Donohue, D. Connolly, M. Finnerty, T. Broderick.

**Oifigigh:**

Ms. C. McConnell, A/Director of Service, Mr. A. Headd, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. F. McEvoy, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn, A/Assistant Engineer, Ms. B. Fox, Head of Enterprise, Ms. E. Moyles, Business Advisor, Ms. C. Seale, Community Water Officer, Ms. A. Dolan, Executive Scientist, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

Mrs. Noreen Madden, Derrymullen, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mr. Sam Lynch, 20 St. Brendans Terrace, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

Mrs. Ann Donoghue, 19 Hillcrest, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mr. Vincent Ward, 8a Ashfield Drive, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mrs. Adeline Naughton, Ashford, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mrs. Monica Finnerty, Eskerboy, Kiltormer, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mrs. Ellen Brennan, Crowsnest, Laurencetown, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mr. P.J. Concannon, Gurteenavilla, Kiltormer, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 8th March, 2017**

MDB17016

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 8th March, 2017 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**

With reference to MDB17011 Page 2 in relation to St. Brigid's Hospital, Ballinasloe Cllr. Donohue asked that Galway County Council examine whether property belonging to the HSE could be used as a car park for Creagh Cemetery and in response Mr. Headd stated that Cllr. Donohue would need to discuss same with the Environment Department.

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS - SECTION 11 OF ROADS ACT, 1993**

MDB17017

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Broderick, the Council approved the declaration of the following roads to be a public roads, the statutory procedure having been complied with:

**Church View Estate, Menlough Oughter, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway**

A to B on Taking in Charge Map

1. Road commencing at its junction with the R-399 and extending northwards for a distance of approximately 78 meters and ending in line with northern boundary of house no. 12 (all in the Townland of Menlough Oughter).

C to D on Taking in Charge Map

2. Road commencing at end of turning bay at house no. 26 and extending eastwards for a distance of approximately 13 meters and ending at its junction with the above mentioned road (1.) (all in the Townland of Menlough Oughter).

E to F on Taking in Charge Map

3. Road commencing at its junction with the above mentioned road (1.) and extending eastwards for a distance of approximately 69 meters to end of turning bay at house no. 6 (all in the Townland of Menlough Oughter).

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Broderick, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:

**Wuthering Heights Housing Estate, Cloonreleagh, Mountbellew, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.**

Road commencing at its junction with the N-63 and extending north east for a distance of approximately 179 meters to the end of turning bay (all in the Townland of Cloonreleagh (Bellew)).

On the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly and which was agreed by all, the following information was approved to be included in the Annual Report 2016 with regard to the performance of functions by the members of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.

*"The members of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe met monthly with the exception of August in 2016. The Annual General Meeting was held on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 where Cllr. Donal Burke was elected Cathaoirleach and Cllr. Aidan Donohue was elected Leas Cathaoirleach for 2016/2017.*

*The members approved the statement by Municipal Districts in respect of the Draft Galway County Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2021 at the January, 2016 Meeting and the members agreed a date for the official opening of the Ballinasloe Branch Library at the April, 2016 Meeting.*

*At their meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 the members approved the Municipal District Schedule of Works 2016 and the 3 Year Multi Annual Roads Programme for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.*

*The Municipal District of Ballinasloe declared a road at one location to be a public road and approved the extinguishment of a Public Right of Way of one public road in 2016 in accordance with the Roads Act, 1993. During 2016 the members received: an update from Mr. Brendan McDonald, Regional Executive, IDA; a Presentation from Mr. Michael Curley, Co-ordinator, Galway Sports Partnership, Community, Enterprise & Economic Development and an overview of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2016. The members received a Deputation in 2016 from Mountbellew National School BOM and Parents Association with regard to traffic management.*

*On the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 at the Draft Budgetary Plan 2017 Meeting, the members approved the draft General Municipal Allocation of €4,884,757 for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.*

*The members agreed to accept an invitation for the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe and an official to attend the 57<sup>th</sup> Fete des uVins d'Anjor by Stella DUPONT, Conseiller Général de Maine et Loire, Maire de CHALONNES SUR LOIRE on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2016. The Cathaoirleach and Ms. Catherine McConnell, Acting Director of Services attended."*

**PRESENTATION FROM MS. CATHERINE SEALE, COMMUNITY WATER OFFICER ON THE LOCAL AUTHORITY WATERS AND COMMUNITIES OFFICE**

**MDB17019**

Ms. Seale provided an update to the members in relation to the Local Authority Waters and Communities Office. Ms. Seale advised that the Local Authority Waters and Communities Office (LAWCO) has been established by Local Authorities to promote public awareness, participation and knowledge sharing in the development of the River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures. Ms. Seale advised that the LAWCO will coordinate the implementation of the Plan and Programme of Measures by Local Authorities, public authorities, sectoral interests and community groups. Ms. Seale advised that the LAWCO is managed jointly by Kilkenny and Tipperary County Councils and operates as a shared service on behalf of all 31 Local Authorities. This national office Ms. Seale advised is tasked with

delivering two key objectives in connection with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive in Ireland: (i) To coordinate the activities of all Local Authorities in areas connected with the WFD and (ii) To promote public participation in the WFD process by engaging the public and communities in the management of their own local water environment. Ms. Seale advised that the LAWCO has a staff complement of 3 Regional Co-ordinators, 3 Specialist Support staff and 12 Community Water Officers operating from different centres across the entire country.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly with regard to the tourist potential of the Marina in Ballinasloe i.e. provision of walkways, Ms. Seale advised that in order to enhance this location she would work with the interested parties. In response to Cllr. Donohue with regard to restrictions being imposed by the Bord na Mona Bridge leading to the Marina, Ms. Seale said she would investigate this issue and revert. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Ms. Seale advised that the LAWCO was under the umbrella of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and that the OPW would continue to deal with the issue of river maintenance and flooding. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard to the provision of Signage as Gaeilge, Ms. Seale stated that she would advise local community groups of the signage requirements. In response to Cllr. Burke, Ms. Seale advised that issues with regard to pollution would be dealt with by the Environment Department of Galway County Council. Ms. Dolan advised that the issue of water quality in the Laurencetown Area was being managed by the Environment Department of Galway County Council. Ms. Dolan stated that the Council had worked closely with the industry involved and that the quality of the water had improved. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Ms. Dolan advised that due to the dilution factor the pollution of the water had not impacted on other nearby water sources.

**PRESENTATION AND UPDATE FROM MS. BREDA FOX, HEAD OF ENTERPRISE MDB17020**

Ms. Fox thanked the members for inviting her to the April Monthly Meeting of Municipal District of Ballinasloe. Ms. Fox introduced Ms. Elaine Moyles to the members and advised that she had been recently appointed to LEO as a Business Advisor. Ms. Fox explained that Ms. Moyles was one of three newly appointed staff members, with a client focus, to LEO.

Ms. Fox advised that the Local Enterprise Office is the first stop for persons looking to start or grow their business and she stated that LEO Business Advisors are available to provide advice. Ms. Fox stated that the Galway Local Enterprise Office is continually expanding its Mentor Programme with high calibre mentors and she stated that Training is another key aspect of the Galway LEO. Ms. Fox stated that the available training programmes provided throughout the year by LEO include: marketing, accounts, information technology and social media.

Ms Breda Fox discussed the LEO Galway approved supports of County based businesses in comparison to City based businesses and the statistics discussed are as follows:

LEO Galway	2016		2015	
	County	City	County	City
<b>Activity Analysis</b>				
<b>Financial Supports</b>				
No applications	14	12	11	6
Value	€432,372	€264,367	€272,899	€214,680
% applications	54%	46%	65%	35%

% value	62%	38%	56%	44%
<b>Other Supports</b>	<b>2016</b>			
	<b>County</b>	<b>City</b>		
<b>Mentoring</b>	67	40		
% activity	63%	37%		
<b>Business Start Training</b>	193	97		
% activity	67%	33%		
<b>Food Development</b>	16	9		
% activity	64%	36%		
<b>Lean Start</b>	29	15		
% activity	66%	34%		
<b>Workshops</b>	200	251		
% activity	44%	56%		
<b>Trading on Line</b>	35	49		
% activity	42%	58%		

Ms Breda Fox discussed the various initiatives ran in Ballinasloe Town and the surrounding environs, including a "Get Export Ready" event ran in partnership with Enterprise Ireland; a Regional Trading Online Voucher seminar attended by Minister Denis Naughton and upcoming business outreach clinics which will be organised by LEO Galway. Ms. Fox also advised that LEO Galway, in the form of the previous CEB structure, supported the Ballinasloe Enterprise Centre and she stated that LEO Galway's aim is to base their business outreach clinics from the centre, going forward.

All of the members thanked Ms. Fox for her comprehensive presentation. Cllr. D. Connolly referred to the importance of LEO for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe in employment supports such as those outlined by Ms. Fox. In response to Cllrs. D. Connolly and Donohue, Ms. Fox advised that the Galway LEO were focused on supporting local businesses and she stated that Galway LEO worked in conjunction with the BACD. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Ms. Fox stated that the issue of rural broadband was a concern and in response to Cllr. Broderick, Ms. Fox advised that workshops would be provided in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe. Ms. Fox also advised that with the additional staff now employed in Galway LEO there will be extended awareness campaigns provided with a view to making the public more aware of the full services which are available via the Local Enterprise Office.

#### **FETE DES VINS 2017 – INVITATION**

**MD817021**

Ms. McConnell advised that the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe and an Official had been invited on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 to the 58<sup>th</sup> Fete des Vins d'Anjou by the Conseiller Général de Maine et Loire. Following discussion and on the proposal of Cllr.

M. Connolly seconded by Cllr. Finnerty, it was agreed that Ms. McConnell would formally respond to the Conseiller Général de Maine et Loire advising that the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would be attending the Festival. Ms. McConnell advised that a number of Galway Food Producers would also be attending the Festival along with support staff from Galway County Council.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS**

MDB17022

Ms. McConnell referred to a letter handed in by Mr. Donal Coffey at the Deputation which was held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 with representatives of Ballinasloe Town in relation to illegal dumping in Ballinasloe Town and she advised that Mr. Cullen, Director of Services had provided the following update:

“A clean-up is currently underway at Poolboy and Kellysgrove by Galway County Council in partnership with Coillte and the Community Employment Scheme under the supervision of the Council's Community Warden. The Community Warden was in contact with Mr Coffey and the area that had been mentioned by him in his letter has been cleaned up.

There is a considerable area involved and a significant volume of waste material which is being removed by machine. A follow up litter pick of smaller waste material will follow and it is expected that the operation will be completed within the next 2 weeks.”

All of the Councillors commended the work carried out by the Environment Department, Community Wardens the Municipal District of Ballinasloe outdoor staff in relation to this matter and Cllr. M. Connolly welcomed the inclusion of Ballinasloe in the new Anti-Dumping Initiative being rolled out by the Environment Department of Galway County Council.

Ms. McConnell advised that funding of €220k was available under the 2017 CLÁR Programme for Galway County Council. Ms. McConnell advised that a total of 20 submissions could be made to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs under the following headings: (i) Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures (ii) Play Areas (iii) Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs and (iv) First Response support Measures. In response to Cllr. Donohue, Ms. McConnell advised that areas which could be included in CLÁR are areas affected by population loss. Mr. Headd asked that Councillors would submit their proposals to him under Measure 1 by the 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2017.

Mr. Headd provided an update to the members on the current status of applications which had been submitted for funding to the OPW.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

MDB17023

Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Finnerty, the following resolution was agreed “ I propose that the Ballinasloe Municipal District receive an update at our June Meeting in relation to the current status of the Ballinasloe Relief Road and confirmation that the monies ring-fenced for same are still on hand for this project”.

In response to Cllr. Burke in relation to the Ballinasloe Water Services Upgrade Contract No. 2 and Street Enhancement Works, Mr. Headd advised that the design and tender pre-qualification stage was complete. Mr. Headd advised that the tender was due to issue and that it was expected that construction would commence in Quarter 4 of 2017 subject to no delays during tender stage.

In response to Cllr. Burke, Ms. McConnell advised that funding was awarded to BACD for a range of community activities under the CSS Grants and that this may be used to support the St. Patricks Day Parade.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MD817024

Cllr. D. Connolly asked that "Ballinasloe Municipal District support the Parents, Pupils and Staff of Coláiste an Creagan Secondary School in their endeavours to keep the College open for the provision of Secondary School education".

Cllr. Donoghue commended the introduction of the Orkambi Drug for Cystic Fibrosis patients.

Cllr. Donohue expressed disappointment with regards to a segment which was aired on Galway Bay FM and which dealt with Mental Health Services in Ballinasloe.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Headd advised that grass cutting would be carried out subject to the availability of resources. Mr. Headd advised that grass cutting in housing estates was not being done in any of the other Municipal Districts.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the next Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on Wednesday 10th May at 2.00 p.m. in the Municipal District Offices of Ballinasloe.

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

**Submitted, Approved and Signed**



**(Cathaoirleach to sign here)**

10/5/2017

**(Date)**