

**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 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2017 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. D. Burke

**LATHAIR FREISIN:**

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

**Oifigigh:** Ms. C. McConnell, A/Director of Service, Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Mr. A. Headd, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. F. McEvoy, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn, A/Assistant Engineer, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer

**RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY**

Mr. Pat Donnellan, Poolboy, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Mr. Bryan Moylan, Cahir, Aughrim, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Mr. Stephen Moylan, Cahir, Aughrim, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Mr. Niall Hogan, Society Street, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Ms. Maureen Kilgannon, Monaveen, Woodlawn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Ms. Nora Dowd, 14 St. Theresa's Park, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway  
Ms. Patricia Sammon, Kilclooney, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

On the proposal of Cllr. Burke, seconded by Cllr. Donohue which was agreed by all, it was agreed to adjourn the meeting for a period of 3 minutes as a mark of respect for the late Michael John Kilgannon, R.I.P. former member of Galway County Council.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2016** **MDB17001**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 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 MDB16058 Page 1, Mr. McEvoy advised that on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 temporary repair works were completed at Dunlo Recreational Park and it is expected he stated that permanent repair works will commence in March/April 2017. Mr. McEvoy advised that the Corporate Services Department

manage the opening hours of Dunlo Recreational Park in conjunction with employees of Galway Rural Development.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with reference to MDB16058 Page 1 regarding the reduction in the Budget for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe, Ms. McConnell advised that the Plenary Council Meeting is the appropriate forum for such discussion to take place as she explained the decision with regard to reductions in the Budget was taken at the main Council Meeting. Cllr. D. Connolly sought clarification regarding the €25,000 reduction in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe Budget and Ms. McConnell stated that the Head of Finance had indicated at the main Council Meeting where the reduction in budget would be found.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Cllr. Burke stated that without the increase in property tax which was agreed at a Plenary Council Meeting, the Council would have had to face a €2.1m deficit and that consequently there would have been limited monies available for roads. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Ms. McConnell stated that Development Contributions cannot be spent on Revenue Expenditure and that the Draft Budgetary Plan is draft until the main Council Budget is adopted.

Cllrs. Burke, Donohue and M. Connolly all made reference to the emphasis which was placed on ensuring that the rate increase in Ballinasloe Town had been kept to a minimum as part of the Budgetary process.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB16061 Page 2, Ms. McConnell advised that clarification had issued to all Oireachtas Members with regard to inaccurate reporting on the vote taken at the main Council Meeting on the proposed amalgamation of Galway County Council and Galway City Council.

In response to Cllr. Donohue and with reference to MDB16058 Page 2, Ms. Gardiner advised that no response had been received to date from the HSE with regard to the current status of the old St. Brigid's Hospital in Ballinasloe Town.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB16061 Page 3, Mr. Mitchell advised that outdoor staff who retired would be replaced by permanent staff.

With reference to MDB16059 Page 2, Cllr. M. Connolly commended Ms. Maire Ni Chionna, Senior Engineer on work carried out with regard to flooding at Lakeview, Moylough, Co. Galway.

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

MDB17002

Mr. Headd provided an update on the following:

***Ballinasloe Water Services Upgrade Contract No. 2 and Street Enhancement Works*** – Mr. Headd advised that the design and tender pre-qualification is nearing completion. Mr. Headd advised that the actual tender should issue by the end of February, 2017 and that construction could commence in August/September subject to no delays during tender

stage. If delays occur Mr. Headd advised that Galway County Council will then have to consider delaying the commencement of construction to allow for the October Fair and Christmas periods.

***Ballinasloe Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 1: Planning for East Bridge Additional Arches***

– Mr Headd advised that consultants have been engaged to examine options to progress this project. He advised that to progress this project may require Screening for an EIA/EIS and Ministerial Consent. Galway County Council he advised may also need to apply for additional funding to the Office of Public Works if necessary. In response to Cllr. Donohue, Mr. Headd advised that he did not know the timeframe for achievement of the East Bridge additional arches as funding needed to be sourced from the OPW.

***Minor Works Applications in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe***

– Mr. Headd advised of all of the Minor Works Applications and their cost benefit analysis which he stated had been submitted to the Roads Department. Mr. Headd also advised of the Minor Works applications which are currently being assessed. Mr. Headd asked for Councillors to inform him if they had any areas of concern.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Headd advised that once an application for Minor Works was completed in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe, it is then forwarded to Roads & Transportation Department where it is progressed further. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mitchell advised that he would seek clarification from Ms. Ni Chionna, Senior Engineer as to how many Minor Works Applications for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe were awaiting issue to the OPW.

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

MDB17003

No business arising.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MDB17004

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Ms. McConnell advised that Development Levies are ring-fenced on a county wide basis.

On the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. Donohue, the following resolution was agreed " I propose the Engineer obtain a cost to taking in charge Glebe Road at Aughrim so Notice of Motion monies may be allocated". Mr. Headd advised that there is a statutory process to be followed when consideration is being given by the Council to taking a road in charge.

In response to Cllr. Finnerty, Ms. McConnell advised that a minor amendment was being made to the Part 8 Application in respect of Garbally Drive, Ballinasloe and she expected that once completed, this application would go before the main Council Meeting.

Cllr. D. Connolly referred to where the Boil Water Notice has been lifted on Kilconnell Water Supply and asked for an update for the next meeting.

Cllr. D. Connolly raised concerns with regard the possible knock on effects which Draft Bye Laws in relation to Horse Fairs and which are currently being prepared by Cork County Council may have on other Councils.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mitchell stated that to undertake an assessment of footpaths would be a major undertaking bearing in mind the staff resources which are available.

On the proposal of Cllr. Finnerty which was seconded by Cllr. Donohue, the following resolution was agreed "I wish to confirm my proposal to allocate my Conference and Training Fund 2016 to Ballinasloe Town Twinning Committee. I believe the full amount to equal three thousand five hundred euro (€3,500) and I hereby request Corporate Services to inform Ms. Breda Mulrennan of said allocation".

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mitchell advised that he would seek clarification and revert to the members with regard to the process involved regarding disposal of land.

Cllr. Donohue advised of his attendance at a meeting with Minister Heather Humphries and commended the new Action Plan, "Realising our Rural Potential: Action Plan for Rural Development which will be rolled out in 2017. Cllr. Donohue suggested that the Municipal District of Ballinasloe could take a lead in the progression of the scheme where he suggested the issue of vacant houses within the Municipal District could be considered as part of this scheme. All of the members commended the introduction of this scheme.

Mr. Headd advised that the footpath project in Caltra would commence in February 2017.


Mr. Headd advised that €70k had been allocated to upgrade the footpaths at Station Road, Ballinasloe. He advised that this project would commence also in February 2017.

Mr. Headd paid tribute to the following permanent members of staff based in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe who retired in 2016, namely: Mr. Tom Coughlan, Mr. John Joe Dervan and Mr. Paddy Hennelly. Mr. Headd also paid tribute to two lorry drivers based in Municipal District of Ballinasloe and who also retired in 2016 namely: Mr. Pat Rushe and Mr. Paddy Mullen.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the next Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 at 2.00 p.m. in the Municipal District Offices of Ballinasloe.

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

**Submitted, Approved and Signed**

  
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**(Cathaoirleach to sign here)**

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**(Date)**