

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 23rd NOVEMBER, 2016 AT 11.00 a.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. D. Burke

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

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

Oifigigh: Ms. C. McConnell, 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, Mr. Brendan McDonald, Regional Executive IDA, Mr. M. Curley, Sports Coordinator, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF: (a) ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH OCTOBER, 2016 AND (b) DRAFT BUDGETARY PLAN MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLILNASLOE HELD ON FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER, 2016. MDB16055

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 12th October, 2016 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Aidan Donohue, seconded by Cllr. Finnerty.

Matters arising from the Minutes

With reference to MDB16051 Page 1, Cllr. D. Connolly advised that Cork County Council are currently preparing Bye Laws in relation to the holding of Horse Fairs and Cllr. D. Connolly stated that he was concerned about any possible implications they would have for the Ballinasloe Horse Fair. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that a review of the Ballinasloe Horse Fair had taken place by the Fair & Festival Committee and he stated that the outcome of the review had been very positive.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB16051 Page 2, Mr. McEvoy advised that temporary repairs had been completed at Dunlo Recreational Park and that the park would be opened shortly. Mr. McEvoy advised that full repair and reinstatement works would be carried out in the Spring of 2017.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB16051 Page 2, Mr. Headd advised that the schedule of work for the Deerpark River project had been completed in full and within budget.

The Minutes of the Draft Budgetary Plan Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Friday, 28th October, 2016 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Donohue.

TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM MR. BRENDAN MCDONALD, REGIONAL EXECUTIVE, IDA WEST REGION

MDB16056

Mr. McDonald stated that IDA Ireland is responsible for the attracting and development of best in class FDI in Ireland and that IDA Ireland work with Multinational Companies (MNC's) to identify opportunities where Ireland can add value to their business. Mr. McDonald also stated that the IDA creates valuable and sustainable employment in Ireland and that they offer practical and financial support to MNC's together with building on the existing base of over 2,000 IDA client companies.

Mr. McDonald advised that in 2015, IDA Ireland published a new strategy "Winning Foreign Direct Investment 2015 -2019". Within this strategy he stated that there is a target of achieving a 40% increase in investment into Regional Locations together with a target of achieving 900 new investments nationally with approximately 92 to 99 investments targeted for the Western Region.

Mr. McDonald in his presentation to the members with regard to the IDA Ireland Structure, Role and Objectives advised the following:

- The key sectors involved are: Technology, Life Sciences, Financial Services and Engineering.
- The key target of the IDA with regard jobs is approx. 187,056 jobs currently supported by the IDA.
- The reasons why Ireland is attractive as a Foreign Direct Investment location is due to its talent (education), tax, location in Europe, track record, ease of doing business and cutting edge companies.
- There is a variety of FDI Companies that are currently in Ireland and there is clustering of various sectors within Regions.
- There is liaison and co-operation of stakeholders i.e. Universities, Local Authorities, Enterprise Ireland etc.
- The needs of FDI Companies include locations of scale, international connectivity, telecoms, good road access and property options.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. McDonald advised that the IDA are aware of the positives of investing in the town of Ballinasloe which include the availability of 9.6 hectares in Ballinasloe (behind SurModics), connectivity to motorway and train and high

speed broadband. In response to Cllrs. Donohue and D. Connolly with regard the vacant HSE property in Ballinasloe (St. Brigid's Hospital), Mr. McDonald advised that he would update the Property Division of the IDA in relation to this matter. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. McDonald advised that a site visit to Ballinasloe by the IDA had taken place within the last 2 months and that the IDA Representative had taken the prospective clients to the SurModics Facility. Cllr. Broderick suggested that Ballinasloe should focus on developing itself as a service town for the Region. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. McDonald advised that the provision of advance units/factories by the IDA is dealt with by the Property Division of the IDA and that such units have been provided in Athlone, Sligo, Castlebar and Kilkenny. Cllr. M. Connolly suggested that consideration should be given to the location of advance units/factories in Ballinasloe and Mr. McDonald advised that he would raise this matter with the Property Division of the IDA. Mr. McDonald explained that each FDI Company looks for very specific requirements and that the IDA when contacted by a client, carefully plan each viewing for the client based on the client's specific requirements.

PRESENTATION FROM MR. MICHAEL CURLEY, CO-ORDINATOR, GALWAY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP, COMMUNITY, ENTERPRISE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

MDB16057

Mr. Michael Curley in his presentation to the members advised that the Local Sports Partnership (LSP) is an initiative of the Irish Sports Council where its key aim is to create a national structure to coordinate and promote the development of sport at local level. Mr. Curley advised that other key aims of an LSP is to increase the level of participation in sport, recreation and physical activity, in order to ensure that local resources are used to best effect and that sustainable structures are established to assist those involved in sport development. Mr. Curley advised that the Galway Sports Partnership (GSP) is a merger of the former Galway City Sports Partnership and County Galway Local Sports Partnership. He advised that the GSP is governed by a Steering Group, which is made up of statutory agencies, community organisations and sports representatives. Mr. Curley advised that the GSP receives both strategic and policy direction from the Irish Sports Council and that the GSP is a sub-committee of both Galway County and Galway City Development Boards and is facilitated by the Community, Enterprise and Economic Development Unit of Galway County Council.

Mr. Curley advised that the Programmes and Activities which are delivered by GSP include the following: Men on the Move, Fo4Life, Walking clubs, Fit Towns, Park Run, Meet & Train, GSP 10K, Couch to 5k, Operation Transformation, Cycle Training, Bike Week, Disability Programme, GSP Programme Funding. Mr. Curley referred to the Training Courses which includes the Training Courses for Schools as provided by GSP and he advised that the Courses include: Safeguarding 1, 2 and 3, First Aid Courses, Speed Agility and Quickness, Walker Leader Training, Activity Leadership courses, Club Office Training and Disability Inclusion Training.

At this point in the Meeting, Cllr. Burke informed the members of the sudden and untimely death of Mr. Liam Gavin, Director of Services for Roads, Transportation, Marine and

General Services. Cllr. Burke led prayers followed by a Minutes silence observed by all present as a mark of respect for Mr. Gavin, R.I.P.

As a mark of respect to Mr. Gavin, R.I.P. the members agreed to adjourn the meeting.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed

D. J. Burke

(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

14/12/2016

(Date)