

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

CHOMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD AT GULLANE'S HOTEL, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY, ON MONDAY 23rd FEBRUARY, 2015 AT 11.00 AM

CATHAOIRLEACH:

Cllr. M. Hoade
Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway
Cllr. N. Byrne
Leas-Chathaoirleach of the County of Galway

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill:

Cllrs. T. Broderick, D. Burke, J. Byrne, N. Byrne, J. Charity, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, G. Cronnelly, Comh. S. Ó Cualáin, Cllrs. J. Cuddy, S. Cunniffe, Comh. T. Ó Curraoin, Cllrs. S. Donnellan, A. Donohue, M. Fahy, P. Feeney, G. Finnerty, M. Finnerty, T. Healy, P. Hynes, D. Joyce, F. Kearney, P. Keaveney, D. Killilea, M. Kinane, M. Maher, E. Mannion, J. McClearn, K. McHugh, T. McHugh, M. Noone, A. Rabbitte, P. Roche, N. Thomas, Comh S. Ó Tuairisg, Cllrs. S. Walsh, T. Welby

Oifigigh:

Mr. K. Kelly, Chief Executive (Interim); Messrs. J. Cullen, L. Gavin, P. Gavican, Directors of Services; Ms. C. McConnell, Acting Director of Service; Mr. G. Mullarkey, Head of Finance; Mr. M. Owens, County Secretary & Meetings Administrator; An tUas. P. O'Neachtain Oifigeach Gaeilge; Ms. G. Healy, Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

The Cathaoirleach commenced by welcoming Senator Michael Mullins, former Galway County Councillor, who was present at the Meeting.

She then referred to the announcement by Apple that morning that they propose to develop a Data Centre at Derrydonnell, Athenry on a 500 acre site. She welcomed this development for

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Athenry stating that it will generate in the region of 300 jobs and is a huge boost for the local area and the County of Galway. She congratulated the IDA, Coillte and the Staff and Members of Galway County Council who were involved in this project.

Cllr. Feeney said that this development will result in an investment of €850m and is the biggest investment by Apple anywhere in the country. He said it is especially welcome because Apple operates a good neighbour policy which will benefit the local area and that a public meeting has been arranged later in the evening to brief the public on the project. Initially the development will create in the region of 300 jobs in the construction of the facility and when it is complete it will create added employment in technical, security, maintenance and other areas. He said that Apple has had a facility in Cork which is there for 30 years and has committed to remain in Athenry for the longterm. Cllr. Feeney said that great credit is due to the Planning Department of the Council and to the Chief Executive for their discrete handling of the matter to date. He congratulated the IDA and he said that the Members of the Council played their part in bringing this development to Athenry through the inclusion of the economic corridor from Galway to Athenry in the County Development Plan. Also the investment in the road network, rail, gas etc. has made Athenry an attractive place for development.

Cllr. Cronnelly said that this development by Apple is a huge boost for Athenry and surrounding areas and he congratulated everyone involved in bringing this environmentally friendly proposal to the area.

Cllr. Noone said he is hopeful that this is the beginning of proper investment in the County of Galway and he said this announcement is indicative of how discrete negotiations can bring great success to an area. He said that the Members are elected to do the best for their communities into the future and must not act on rumour and must be careful when bringing forward proposals at Council Meetings.

Cllrs. Cuddy and Kinane also welcomed the development and the employment it will create and also the commitment of Apple to work with local businesses and schools.

Cllrs. M. Connolly, T. McHugh and F. Kearney complimented the officials and Members past and present who were involved in bringing this investment to Athenry and expressed the hope that the benefits of the development will reach way beyond Athenry.

Cllr. M. Finnerty welcomed the fact that the Monthly Meeting was being held in Ballinasloe and he joined with previous speakers in the hope that this wonderful news for Athenry will have a ripple effect for the whole County.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Cllrs. McClearn and Fahy paid tribute to Cllr. Feeney and the Members and officials who had been involved in creating the Strategic Corridor from Galway to Athenry in 2003 and said that this project shows the benefits of forward planning through to the County Development Plan, with Cllr. Fahy also acknowledging the role of former County Manager Donal O'Donoghue for his foresight in promoting the concept of an economic corridor as a means of encouraging economic development in the County.

Cllr. Welby agreed that forward planning is very beneficial and said that it is important that when infrastructure such as roads, gas, water, greenways etc. are being planned, that provision is made for ducting for future data infrastructure.

Cllr. J. Byrne said that the winning of this project for an area such as Athenry confirms the commitment of the Government to job creation in rural areas. He also welcomed the fact that the Council will receive a boost in income from the rates which will be forthcoming from the facility.

Cllr. Hynes also welcomed this project and he urged the IDA to promote investment in Loughrea, Portumna, Gort, Kinvara and Ballinasloe.

Cllrs. Healy and Ó Curraoin congratulated all involved in securing such an investment for Athenry and the County of Galway and they expressed the view that it is very reassuring to see a global company such as Apple investing in a major development outside of Dublin.

The Chief Executive joined with the Members in welcoming the announcement and said it is a credit to successive Councils and Management and represents a vote of confidence in the infrastructure, educational facilities, workforce in the County and also the County Development Plan of County Galway. He said that the fact that County Galway was chosen by Apple for this major development is one of the results of the positive approach Galway has and he hopes that this is the start of global investment in the County.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

1983

- Mr. Tim O'Driscoll, Galway Road, Gort, Co. Galway
- Katie & Martin McGrath, Cill Chiaráin, Conamara, Co. na Gaillimhe
- Mr. Aidan Lawless, Kinvaro, Westminster Road, Foxrock, Dublin 18
- Mrs. Ann Brien, Rushlake, Woodlawn, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mr. Stiofán Ó Culáin, Teach Mór, Indreabhán, Co. na Gaillimhe
- Mrs. Katie McGrath, Cill Chiaráin, Conamara, Co. na Gaillimhe
- Mr. Roddy Glynn & Family, Gatestown, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

- Mr. Paddy Booth, Kinclare, Caltra, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mr. & Mrs. Tom Forde & Family, Ballyboy, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
- Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Forde & Family, Grannagh, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
- Ms. Jean O Hehir, The Pines, Creagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS

1984

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 26th January, 2015 were approved by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach, on the proposal of Cllr. G. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. Noone.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr. Donnellan referred to his proposal that the Members receive a briefing from the Local Enterprise Office and he asked if this has been arranged.

The Cathaoirleach informed Cllr. Donnellan that this would take place at the March Monthly Meeting of the Plenary Council.

She also informed Cllr. Donnellan that no date has been set for the Civic Reception to be held for Ms. Olive Loughnane.

Mr. Gavin in reply to Cllr. Cunniffe confirmed that in the context of the consideration of the motion relating to the Galway – Dublin Greenway, he indicated that he considered the Galway – Dublin Greenway to be critical infrastructure. The Cathaoirleach in reply to comments from Cllr. M. Connolly indicating that he did not agree with the suggestion that the Greenway be regarded as critical infrastructure, stated that the clarification provided was to reflect the views of the Director of Services and was not intended to reflect the views of the Plenary Council.

Cllr. Roche referred to Page 36 of the Minutes and he said that he wished to make a correction to the Minutes which recorded that he requested that during the advance works being undertaken for the Gort to Tuam Motorway, the surplus cut-stone be made available to support community groups. He said that he requested that stone from walls that are removed during the construction of the Gort to Tuam Motorway be made available to community groups.

It was agreed that the Minutes be corrected to accurately reflect Cllr. Roche's request.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Cllr. Cuddy expressed concern that some reports of the January meeting of Council misrepresented the views of the Members and the decisions of Council in relation to the Dublin – Galway Greenway and that the misrepresentation resulted in unnecessary concern for communities and stakeholders impacted by the proposal.

In reply to Cllrs. Kinane and Rabbitte, the Chief Executive said that the Minutes of Plenary Meetings of the Council are published on the Council's website once they are confirmed by the Members. This is to ensure that the Members are satisfied that the Minutes accurately reflect decisions taken at the Meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

1985

The Report of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 16th January, 2015 was approved by the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. McClearn.

REVISED STANDING ORDERS

1986

Report dated 17th February, 2015 was already circulated to each Member.

Cllr. Killilea proposed that the Draft Revised Standing Orders Regulating Proceedings and Meetings of the Plenary Council be approved. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Noone.

Cllr. Cunniffe said that he felt that the revision of the Standing Orders would result in restrictions on debate which are too controlling and he said he did not agree with all of the proposed changes. He asked for clarity as to which of the Standing Orders are mandatory and which are up for discussion.

Cllr. G. Finnerty said that the Interim Standing Orders were discussed at the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) Meeting of 16th January, 2015 and it was agreed by the CPG at that Meeting that Draft Revised Standing Orders regulating proceedings at Meetings of the Plenary Council would be prepared for consideration of the Members at the February Meeting.

Cllr. D. Connolly expressed concern regarding Item 17 of the Draft Standing Orders which proposes to include a stipulation that *No Notice of Motion may be listed on the Agenda when the subject matter relates to a particular Municipal District or an issue specific to a particular Municipal District* and that *a NOM that has been tabled and discussed at a Municipal District Meeting may not be included on the Agenda of plenary Council as a NOM in the same form*. He said he view was that this may result in discussions on certain items being stymied.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

The Chief Executive referenced the Interim Standing Orders as adopted by the Council in June 2014 and the decision at the time to revisit at a future date to determine if further change was required. He said that the Interim Standing Orders were discussed by the CPG at its Meeting on 16th January 2015 and following on from these discussions, the Draft Revised Standing Orders were drawn up for consideration by the Corporate Policy Group and Plenary Council.

He explained the reasoning behind the proposed additions to the Standing Orders as follows:

No. 1: To allow for Plenary Meetings to be held by order of the Cathaoirleach following consultation with the CPG.

No. 5: To ensure that Meetings finish at a reasonable time.

No.17: To ensure that duplication does not occur regarding the discussion of issues at Municipal District Meetings and Meetings of the Plenary Council. However, the Chief Executive clarified that where a discussion commenced at a Municipal District Meeting which has countywide effect, such an item may be brought forward for consideration at a Meeting of the Plenary Council.

No. 20: The Chief Executive clarified that the stipulation that a motion may be proposed without notice for the purpose of dealing with urgent business related to a function of the Council but it shall be necessary for the passing of the motion that not less than 19 members vote in favour is a statutory requirement under Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001. However, he said that the proposed addition that it shall be necessary for a majority of the Members present to approve the taking of the motion is not a statutory requirement and is for the consideration of the Members.

No. 22: He clarified that this stipulation would mean that any item brought up at the Meeting which is not directly related to an item on the Agenda and is not accepted by a majority of the Members present for consideration as an urgent business item, will be dealt with as a Notice of Motion at the next Meeting and a Notice of Motion which appears on the agenda of the Meeting and which has been the subject of a written reply may only be discussed at the Meeting with the approval of a majority of the Members present and with prior notice to the Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Healy said expressed concern that this stipulation might have the result that no motion can be taken under Cathaoirleach's Business.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

No. 54: The Chief Executive explained that the casting of votes by electronic means will be facilitated in the Council Chamber when the reconfiguration works are completed.

In reply to Comh. Ó Tuairisg, Mr. Owens said that the reconfigured Council Chamber will be equipped with a system to facilitate electronic voting and he confirmed that the votes will be recorded in the Minutes in the usual manner.

Comh. Ó Cualáin proposed that the Revised Standing Orders be amended as follows: "Except with the permission of the Chair no member shall address the Council for more than two minutes". This proposal was seconded by Cllr. K. McHugh, and agreed.

In reply to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Owens said that Standing Orders can be amended again after a period of 6 months following their approval by the Members.

As the proposal of Cllr. Killilea, seconded by Cllr. Noone to adopted the Draft Revised Standing Orders Regulating Proceedings and Meetings of the Plenary Council was not agreed the Cathaoirleach called for a vote on the Revised Standing Orders, as amended.

Mr. Owens stated that in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, an Amendment to the Standing Orders requires that 2/3rds of the Members must vote in favour.

The following was the result of the vote:

For	Cllrs. Burke, J. Byrne, M. Connolly, Ó Cualáin, Donnellan, Donohue, Fahy, Feeney, G. Finnerty, M. Finnerty, Hoade, Hynes, Kearney, Killilea, Kinane, Maher, McClearn, T. Mc Hugh, Noone, Rabbitte, Roche, Thomas, Comh. Ó Tuairisg, Cllr. Walsh	(24)
Against	Cllrs. Charity, D.Connolly, Cunniffe, Joyce, Healy, K. McHugh	(6)
Abstained	Cllr. Broderick, Comh. Ó Curraoin, Cllr. Welby	(3)

Arising from a request for clarification on the requirement for 2/3rds of the Members to vote in favour, being 2/3rds of Plenary Council or 2/3rd of the Members voting, Mr. Owens advised that 2/3rd of the Members voting was sufficient provided that the 2/3rd voting in favour represented at least half of Plenary Council.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

As a result of the vote, the Cathaoirleach declared the motion carried and the Draft Revised Standing Orders Regulating Proceedings and Meetings of the Plenary Council, as amended adopted.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

1987

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Finnerty, seconded by Cllr. M. Finnerty and agreed, that the Standing Orders be suspended in order that Item 11 be taken next.

TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM SHANNON AIRPORT

1988

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Neil Pakey, Chief Executive Officer of Shannon Group Plc. to the Meeting.

Mr. Pakey addressed the Members and thanked them for inviting him to make a presentation at their Council Meeting. He said that the purpose of his presentation was to give the Members an outline of the business of Shannon Group and to share information.

He said that Shannon Group is made up of four businesses, i.e. Shannon Airport, Shannon Heritage, Shannon International Aviation Services Centre (IASC) and Shannon Commercial Properties and he said that the priorities of Shannon Group are to:

- Align the overall objectives of all Shannon Group businesses
- Ensure a successful international airport with up to 2.5 million passengers within five years
- Expand the range of long-haul transit flights including cargo
- Develop connections to the United States via low cost carrier traffic
- Commence redevelopment of Shannon Free Zone
- Build on and grow existing aviation through International Aviation Services Centre (IASC)
- Provide Aircraft technical support
- Expand corporate and business aviation
- Emphasis on aviation training
- Develop and grow heritage business
- Achieve business efficiencies and improvements
- €1.4m will be spent on developing the Airport in order to improve customer service initiatives such as a revamp of the existing toilet facilities

He said that the key to delivering visitor growth within the overall national economic policy framework is to win new routes, promote Shannon Airport's own routes, welcome visitors to the region and enhance their experience during their stay in the region. Shannon Group is very active in the market place talking to airlines in order to get them on board.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

He said that Shannon Heritage currently operates banquets, day visitor attractions, retail, catering and site management in 10 locations as follows:

- Bunratty Castle & Folk Park
- King John's Castle
- Craggaunowen
- Dunguaire
- Knappogue
- Killaloe
- Cliffs of Moher
- Malahide Castle & Gardens
- Adare Heritage Centre
- Shannon Airport

He finished by saying that Shannon Group plc looks forward to working with the Members and Officials of the Council regarding regional development issues, tourism and mutually beneficial projects and he said that County Galway is a key area of focus for the Group with a view to assisting in the growth of economic benefits for County Galway into the future

Cllr. Fahy thanked Mr. Pakey for his very informative presentation and he said that Thoor Ballylee near Gort which was once the home of WB Yeats should be promoted by Shannon Airport as a destination for overseas visitors. He said he hoped that some of the emigrants who have left this country will come back again through Shannon.

Mr. Pakey replied that he would like to see Shannon associated with Thoor Ballylee particularly in light of the centenary of WB Yeats' association with Thoor Ballylee.

Cllr. McClearn said that he fully supported Cllr. Fahy's proposal to invite a representative from Shannon Group to address the Members because Shannon Airport is very beneficial for south and east Galway. He expressed the view that Shannon Airport has been hugely revived because people of vision and enthusiasm are running the airport at present. He said the Council should partner with Shannon Group to promote attractions such as Lough Derg in order to attract more visitors to the County.

In reply to Cllr. J. Byrne who said that he would like to see Dun Guaire Castle open all year round, Mr. Pakey said that Dun Guaire Castle is a great venue for visitors and he agreed with Cllr. Byrne that public toilets and increased parking facilities are required at this location.

In reply to Cllr. Maher he said that inbound travellers through the airport have a direct economic benefit to County Galway of between €45m and €50m per year.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Cllr. Cronnelly said that the areas being targeted for visitors by Shannon Group should be extended to towns such as Athenry and Tuam because of the motorway from Limerick to Galway and Mr. Pakey welcomed Cllr. Cronnelly's suggestion that local tourist offices be located in Shannon, stating that this would be a very positive initiative in order to educate visitors regarding the vast heritage and history associated with County Galway.

Cllr. Rabbitte said that areas such as Portumna and Gort in east Galway which are steeped in heritage and history feel disenfranchised because of their distance from the Wild Atlantic Way and Mr. Pakey agreed that the Wild Atlantic Way is not particularly well signposted from Shannon Airport.

In reply to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Pakey said that he is hopeful that a cargo operator will come on board with Shannon Airport in the near future which will benefit the beef industry in exporting to the United States.

Mr. Pakey agreed with Cllr. G. Finnerty that advertising at the airport is extremely important for south Galway in order to promote visitor numbers for the region and he said he will ensure that advertising in relation to County Galway is put in place at the Airport. He also said that an appropriate number of staff are employed at Shannon Commercial Properties however, he said that more staff are needed in its marketing department as a lot of work needs to be done in this area.

In reply to Cllrs. Healy, Cunniffe, M. Connolly and M. Finnerty, Mr. Pakey said that Galway is the third most visited destination for visitors passing through Shannon from Europe and the United States after Clare and Kerry and Galway is also the third most visited destination for visitors passing through the United Kingdom after Clare and Limerick. He said that the European Market is strong with Ryanair serving 18 European destinations and the number of tourists arriving through Shannon Airport is growing yearly.

In reply to a question from Cllr. Cuddy regarding the implications of Aer Lingus being taken over by AIG, Mr. Pakey said that at present Aer Lingus has no guarantees with any airport. He said change can be a good thing however, he said it is important that the Heathrow slots be guaranteed but no written guarantee has been received from AIG in this regard and no decision has been made regarding the AIG bid for Aer Lingus.

The Chief Executive joined with the Members in thanking Mr. Pakey for accepting the Council's invitation to speak at the Meeting stating that economic development and tourism enhancement is very important for County Galway. He said that the Wild Atlantic Way has resulted in major opportunities for tourism for the county and he said that initiatives such as the proposed Dublin to Galway Greenway would provide further opportunities to attract visitors from Shannon airport to County Galway.

ASSIGNMENT OF REPRESENTATION AND CHAIRS FOR THE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

1989

Report dated 23rd February, 2015 was circulated to each Member.

On the proposal of Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh, the Assignment of Representation and Chairs for the Strategic Policy Committees, as circulated, was agreed.

ASSIGNMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNITY SECTOR TO THE JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

1990

Report dated 20th February, 2015 was circulated to each Member

On the proposal of Cllr. Kearney, seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, the Assignment of Representatives of the Community Sector to the Joint Policing Committee, as circulated, was agreed

TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO AUTHORISE THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES TO THE COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES, JOINT COMMITTEES AND THE JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

1991

Report dated 17th February, 2015 was already circulated to each Member

On the proposal of Cllr. Welby, seconded by Cllr. Noone, the payment of Expenses to the Community and Voluntary Representatives on Committees, Joint Committees and the Joint Policing Committee was agreed.

TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE ADOPT THE GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2015 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 134(A) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED)

1992

Report dated 17th February, 2015 was circulated to each Member

The Chief Executive presented the Service Delivery Plan to the Members stating that it is a requirement under legislation that the local authority prepare a plan identifying the services it intends to provide to the public, consistent with the provisions of the local authority budget. He said that the approach to the preparation of the Service Delivery Plan was discussed with the Corporate Policy Group at its meetings in January and February, 2015.

Comh. Ó Tuairisg expressed the view that officials are required to spend too much time on producing reports and plans at present and resources of the Council could be better spent on delivering services.

The Chief Executive said that while he understands the views of the Member, this is a statutory requirement under legislation.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Cllr. Healy welcomed the Plan stating that the customer appreciates information regarding the work being carried out by the Council. However, he said that training and resources are required in order for the Council to deliver all the necessary services.

On the proposal of Cllr. Killilea, seconded by Cllr. McClearn it was agreed to adopt the Galway County Council Service Delivery Plan 2015.

TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED) **1993**

Report dated 17th February, 2015 was circulated to each Member

It was proposed by Cllr. McClearn, seconded by Cllr. Killilea, and agreed, that the attendance of the Members named hereunder at the Co-operation Ireland Conference entitled *Regenerating Local Spaces through Effective Community Planning* to be held at Dublin Castle on 26th February 2015, be authorized:

Cllr. S. Cunniffe

It was proposed by Cllr. Thomas, seconded by Cllr. Maher, and agreed, that the attendance of the Members named hereunder at the Ace Training Conference entitled *E.U. Support Programmes for Irish Regions* to be held at The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 27th February 2015 - 1st March 2015, be authorized:

Cllr. S. Cunniffe

Cllr. M. Fahy

It was proposed by Cllr. Killilea, seconded by Comh. Ó Curraoin, and agreed, that the attendance of the Members named hereunder at the Ace Training Conference entitled *Domestic Water Charges - Preparation & Practicalities* to be held at The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on 20th - 22nd March 2015, be authorized:

Cllr. P. Hynes

Comh. T. Ó Curraoin

Cllr. J. McClearn

Cllr. T. McHugh

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5A) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED) 1994

Report dated 17th February, 2015 was already circulated to each Member.

It was proposed by Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. Donnellan and agreed, that the attendance of the Members named hereunder at the AILG Training Conference (Part 1) of Local Authorities to be held at The Welcome Inn, Castlebar, Co. Mayo on 26th February 2015, be authorised:

Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. T. Welby
Cllr. F. Kearney
Comh. S. Ó Tuairisg
Cllr. M. Fahy
Comh. T. Ó Curráoin
Cllr. M. Maher
Comh. S. Ó Cualáin
Cllr. T. Broderick

It was proposed by Comh. Ó Cualáin, seconded by Comh. O'Tuairisg and agreed, that the attendance of the Members named hereunder at the AILG Second Annual Conference 2015 *Local Government New Structures, New Challenges* to be held at the Nuremore Hotel, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on 12th - 13th March 2015, be authorised:

Cllr. P. Hynes
Cllr. T. Welby
Cllr. F. Kearney
Comh. S. Ó Tuairisg
Cllr. M. Fahy
Cllr. S. Cunniffe
Cllr. M. Maher
Cllr. T. McHugh
Comh. S. Ó Cualáin
Cllr. J. McClearn
Cllr. T. Broderick

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

1995

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McHugh, seconded by Cllr. Maher, the Members agreed that Item 12 be taken next.

TO RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE VALUATION OFFICE

1996

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Damien Curran, Project Manager/Team Leader from the Valuation Office to the Meeting.

Mr. Curran addressed the Members stating that the core business of the Valuation Office is to provide a rateable valuation service to local authorities in accordance with the Valuation Act 2001.

He said that the National Revaluation Programme for commercial rates is well underway while new valuation legislation will be enacted in 2015.

He then gave the Members a detailed account of the work of the Valuation Office as regards Revision and Revaluation of rates on properties.

He advised that rates are calculated by multiplying the Annual Rate on Valuation as determined by the Local Authority by the valuation on the property, as determined by the Valuation Office.

Cllr. Killilea thanked Mr. Curran for his very informative presentation however, he said that the local authority should recognise that it is more important to support local businesses than charging rates which in some cases are higher than their rent.

In reply to Cllr. Killilea who asked if it would be possible to designate certain towns where no rates would be charged for a period of time until businesses got up and running again and Cllr. Donnellan who asked if there was any mechanism to provide exemptions for start-up businesses, Mr. Curran said that the remit of the Valuation Office is to value properties and that matter of rates is for the local authority to decide. He explained however, that the Valuation Office cannot carry out a revaluation of an individual property unless a physical change has been made to the property which affects its valuation and it is listed by the Local Authority for revaluation.

In reply to Cllr. Maher who said that businesses are closing down because they are afraid that their rates will be increased following the revaluation process, Mr. Curran said that it is not the

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

business that is valued, it is the property that is valued by comparison with other similar properties in the area.

In reply to Comh. Ó Tuairisg, Mr. Curran said that windfarms are valued once listed by the Local Authority for valuation. In relation to post offices located in private houses, he replied that only the commercial portion of a house is valued and not the domestic area.

Mr. Curran, in reply to Cllr. G. Finnerty, said that public houses are valued based on turnover and size, whereas shops are valued by comparison with other shops of the same size and location and turnover is not a factor in the valuation. In relation to filling stations, he said that the area of the shop is valued by comparison with other shops of the same size in the area and the filling station is valued based on the through-put of produce sales. As regards new retail units, the valuation office looks at its size and values it by comparison with other similar sized units in the locality. Therefore, he said shops in towns have a higher valuation than those located outside of towns.

Cllr. Healy raised a number of queries and Mr. Curran replied as follows:

- The valuation system in place will not be changed under the new legislation which is due to be introduced shortly
- Properties on the islands are not valued differently to those on the mainland except that they are compared with others in their area and therefore may be valued lower
- Pop-up businesses which only appear during the tourist season are valued based on the premises they occupy and not the nature of business.

Cllr. Cunniffe expressed the view that the current valuation system should be abolished and the local authority should be given the function of generating their own rates system and write off rates in certain circumstances based on its local knowledge. Mr. Curran replied that it is not in the remit of the Valuations Office to make policy.

In reply to queries from Cllr. Welby, Mr. Curran said that the National Revaluation Programme commenced in 2006 and the revaluation of properties in the four Dublin Local Authority areas has been completed as well as Limerick and Waterford. He said it is not possible to evaluate how long it will take to complete the programme for the whole country but he said that over 60% of properties have been revalued to date. He also replied to the Councillor that any ratepayer can request a revaluation of any property however, the Valuation Office cannot revise the valuation unless a physical change has been made to the property.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

In reply to Cllr. Kearney, Mr. Curran said that under the current legislation sports clubhouses which have a bar licence are valued based on the whole building and not just the bar area but he said that this may change under new legislation which is due to be introduced this year.

In reply to Cllr. Donnellan, Mr. Curran said that the method of valuation based on construction costs only refers to specialised properties such as water treatment plants.

Cllr. Donohue expressed the view that the method of valuing businesses by comparing them with other businesses in the locality may not be fair as one may be making more profit than the other.

Cllr. Broderick expressed the view that rates should be based on profitability and that the current system is regressive for small businesses.

Cllr. Fahy said that unless an amnesty from rates is given to pubs and small businesses around the County which are not making a profit, many of them will close down.

Cllr. M. Connolly also said that valuation should relate to the income of the business and the current system is unfair and antiquated.

Mr. Curran replied to these views by re-stating that rates are a property tax and are not a tax on business.

Cllr. K. McHugh referred to the outcome of previous revaluations and asked if larger businesses fared better from the re-distribution of rates than smaller ones. Mr. Curran replied that in broad terms following the re-distribution, poor industrial type properties tend to fair better and retail properties tended to have increased e.g. Liffey Valley and Dundrum Shopping Centres, while in Dublin City Centre, offices were valued highest.

In reply to Cllr. Roche, Mr. Curran said that when valuing industrial property, the gross external dimensions of the property are taken into account whereas when valuing retail space, the net internal area, excluding toilets, stairwells etc. is used. In relation to community centres, he said that these are exempt but if part of the centre is leased out separately to an occupier, it is up to the Local Authority to list it for valuation.

Cllr. Mannion asked if the seasonality of business in Conamara is taken into account when valuing properties and Mr. Curran replied that the valuation of a property is based on its annual rental value.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Mr. Curran also replied to Cllr. Mannion that if a bar and a restaurant is operated from a premises and a decision is made to close one part of the business, the ratepayer can request that the property be split into one valuation. However, the property must have independent access and be capable of existing independently, i.e. be capable of being rented separately.

In reply to Cllr. Burke, Mr. Curran said that when revaluing a property which has deteriorated structurally, the Valuation Office will take this into account but not its general state of repair.

In reply to Cllr. Rabbitte, Mr. Curran stated that there is nothing in the legislation to allow for the revaluation of properties whose footfall has decreased due to the closure of nearby businesses.

Cllr. Kearney expressed the view that the owners of funeral homes pay very high rates and Mr. Curran replied that funeral parlours are valued similar to other businesses in the area and the fact that the premises is not used every day does not mean that it is rated differently.

In reply to queries from a number of Members, he said that the Valuation Office does not seek out properties to value, it is up to the Local Authority to list relevant properties for valuation.

The Cathaoirleach advised that due to a requirement for her attendance at an official function in her capacity as Cathaoirleach it was necessary for her to withdraw from the meeting. The Leas-Chathaoirleach, Cllr. Niamh Byrne assumed the Chair the remainder of the meeting.

TO CONSIDER THE MANAGEMENT REPORT – FEBRURY 2015 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 136(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED)

1997

Report dated 17TH February, 2015 was already circulated to each Member.

The Chief Executive presented the Management Report to the Members and stated that he had nothing further to add to the Report.

Cllr. Broderick referred to the Review of Local Government Arrangements in Galway and expressed the view that the Government are making very little of Galway County Council because the Council had to invest heavily in reconfiguring the Council Chamber to accommodate 39 Members and now the Government has decided to carry out a review which may result in the Chamber having to be reconfigured again following the next local elections.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

He asked if the Council will receive any compensation from the Government for the expense incurred in this regard.

Comh. Ó Cualáin agreed with Cllr. Broderick and said that the public are not happy with the level of expense incurred on the reconfiguration of the Council Chamber.

Cllr. Fahy welcomed the reconfiguration of the Council Chamber stating that it was necessary in order to accommodate the 39 Members.

The Chief Executive said that the Review of Local Government Arrangements in Galway will be an item on the Agenda for the March Meeting of the Plenary Council. He said that the outcome of the review is by no means definite and may not result in any change at all, or it might result in an extension of the city boundary, or may result in a reduction of Members.

Cllr. McClearn said that the outcome of the review could have very serious implications for the rates base of the county.

Cllr. D. Connolly said that the LCDs' are awaiting instructions from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government as to how it should proceed and there is a lot of work to be done as regards housing provision and other infrastructure by the Council and this does not need to be held up because of a review.

On the proposal of Cllr. McClearn seconded by Cllr. Maher, it was agreed to note the Management Report for February 2015.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE.

1998

Mr. Owens informed the Members that the winner of the Glór na nGael Awards 2014 was announced that morning. The winner of the Galway County Council award for 2014 is Forbairt Chonamara Láir. He said that Galway Co. Council has sponsored the County award to promote the development of the Irish language under the Glór na nGael National Scheme for a number of years.

He further advised that two other Galway communities have been shortlisted for the National Awards to be announced at a later date, i.e. Gaeilge Locha Riach and Comharchumann Mhic Dara, An Cheathrú Rua.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

It was noted that Gaeilge Locha Riach also won the Language Planning Award and the Language Planning & Surveys have been supported by Galway County Council in the Loughrea area for a number of years. Mr. Owens extended congratulations to Forbairt Chonamara Láir and wished the other two communities success in the National Awards to be presented in April.

Mr. Cullen referred to the landfill facility at Kilconnell, Ballinasloe which had been operated by Greenstar under a Licence Agreement. He said that following Greenstar's sudden departure from the landfill facility in 2013, the EPA asked the Council to undertake site management operations, security and routine maintenance of the landfill site. The Council has carried out this work and has been reimbursed for the cost of same. He stated that there are nine cells in total at the landfill, seven of which had been filled to date. He said there was little or no permanent capping in place and the capping that has been provided will degrade over time and have serious environmental consequences and give rise to significant additional costs.

He said that the Council had now been asked by the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and the Environmental Protection Agency to assist in implementing a programme to bring about a long term solution for the site. This would involve the reopening of the site for the acceptance of waste in the two remaining cells for a defined period of time and at the same time to begin the permanent capping of all the cells and the aftercare of the site. He said this approach would bring some certainty and allow the facility to be closed in approximately three and half years and would ensure that the necessary remediation is carried out. He said the current situation is unsatisfactory and unsustainable and a long-term solution would have to be found at some stage in any event.

Cllr. D. Connolly stated that it was unsatisfactory that the landfill operator had been allowed to abandon the site and that it was left to the council to take on responsibility to deal with the situation. He acknowledged that what was proposed seemed the most realistic way of bringing closure of the site in an environmentally safe way in a relatively short period of time, as he said people had huge concerns regarding environmental aftercare of the site. He said he was in agreement with the proposal if it is carried out without financial implications for the Council.

Mr. Cullen replied that the Council will not proceed with the proposal unless a guarantee is given by the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government that all costs incurred in this regard will be reimbursed.

Cllrs. Donohue, Burke, and M. Connolly said they welcomed that the site will be closed following the necessary remediation works being carried out.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

In reply to Cllr. Donohue, Mr. Cullen said that Greenstar would have no further involvement in relation to the operations of the site. He also advised that the tonnage involved was 300,000 tonnes plus the material needed for daily cover and capping requirements.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

1999

It was proposed by Comh. Ó Curraoin, seconded by Cllr. Cuddy and agreed, that the Standing Orders be suspended to allow the Meeting continue after 6 p.m.

Cllr. M. Finnerty said that this proposal was discussed initially at Ballinasloe Municipal District level and he thanked Mr. Cullen and his staff for keeping the Members informed regarding the plans for the remediation of Kilconnell Landfill site stating that this is a good example of how the Municipal District Council's are working well.

Cllr. Broderick said that the Municipal District Councillors were briefed on a number of occasions about what was being proposed and felt that the assurances that the capping and safe closure of the site will be completed within three and a half years with no cost to the Council was in the long term interests of the Council and the local community.

Cllr. McClearn stated that the EPA had clearly failed in this instance to properly discharge its supervisory role over the landfill operator and now the council was left to step in and help solve the problem.

Mr. Cullen thanked the Ballinasloe Councillors, in particular, for their engagement and undertook to brief them regularly as the process proceeded.

Mr. Gavin said that a Department Circular regarding the Community Involvement Scheme for 2015 would be circulated to the Members shortly. The Scheme will be advertised in the press on 6th March, 2015 with a closing date for receipt of applications of 10th April, 2015. He also said that the Programme of Works for Town & Village Upgrade Schemes will be circulated to the Members shortly and it is proposed that €250,000 will be allocated to 10 schemes over a five-year period.

The following items of correspondence which were circulated at the meeting were noted:

- Correspondence dated 13th February 2015 from Limerick City and County Council adopting a resolution "that Limerick City and County Council call on the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to review the declaration of 'off the road' vehicles when declared off the road and that the system in England, i.e. 'Lifetime' declaration and not 'Annual' be used."

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

- Correspondence dated 13th February 2015 from Limerick City and County Council adopting a resolution “that Limerick City and County Council call on the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Children to investigate the alleged movement of sex offenders from Northern Ireland to the twenty-six County Republic and, in particular, Limerick City and County.”
- Correspondence dated 20th February 2015 from Fingal County Council “that this Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to the Minister of the Environment to ask him to remove the 15% limit on Local Property Tax reductions on the basis that it is expected that the valuation on property prices mandated to occur in 2016 is expected to reveal that valuations have increased far above 15% and as a result local Councillors will be powerless to prevent what may be an unnecessary imposition of higher LPT rates. This motion also calls on the Chief Executive to write to all County and City Councils in Ireland to inform them of this potential issue for their consideration.”

CATHAOIRLEACH’S BUSINESS

2000

Cllr. Fahy made the following proposal: “I wish to urgently request Galway Co. Council and the N.R.A. get the O.P.W. to give approval to the Kiltiernan – Ballinderreen Drainage Scheme, otherwise Kiltiernan School will be flooded with the commencement of the Gort – Tuam Roadway Project.” This proposal was seconded by Cllr. G. Finnerty, and agreed.

Mr. Gavin stated that the Council made a submission to the O.P.W. for funding to alleviate the flooding at Kiltiernan but the application was not approved as it did not meet the requirements of the O.P.W. cost benefit analysis. The Council subsequently submitted a revised proposal to the O.P.W. but this proposal was again rejected due to the cost benefit analysis test. The Council is continuing to liaise with the O.P.W with a view to solving the issues in order to receive the necessary funding.

Cllr. Fahy reiterated his views that Kiltiernan School will be flooded due to the Gort-Tuam Motorway project unless flood relief measures are carried out as soon as possible and he asked the Chief Executive and the Director of Services to do all they can to progress the necessary works.

Cllr. J. Byrne expressed the view that it would serve the Council better to talk to the Department and the O.P.W. in order to solve the flooding problem rather than exaggerating fears that the school will be flooded due to the Motorway project.

Cllr. G. Finnerty said that the people of Kiltiernan and Gort have genuine fears regarding flooding and it is important that funding is received for the flood alleviation measures.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Mr. Gavin also said that engaging in constructive discussions with the O.P.W. is the best way forward and he said that the passing of a Notice of Motion will not in itself speed up the process.

Cllr. Roche referred to the problem of illegal dumping and said that the sum of €8,000 which has been allocated to each Municipal District to deal with illegal dumping is insufficient to deal with the problem. He suggested that the Council seek additional funding from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government in this regard and Mr. Cullen replied that he would raise this issue with the Department.

Comh. Ó Cualáin suggested that the Department be advised that the fines which are in place regarding illegal dumping are an insufficient deterrent and also he expressed the view that the driver and owner of a vehicle which is proven to have been used for illegal dumping should receive a driving ban for 12 months.

Cllr. McClearn proposed that the Meeting would end no later than 7p.m. and this proposal was seconded by Cllr. T. McHugh and agreed.

Cllr. Fahy referred to his Notice Motion No. 18 and made the following proposal: *“That a resolution go to the Minister for Environment Mr. Alan Kelly T.D. that greater flexibility be allowed for Driver’s Licence for people over 70 years – as some forget to renew their Licence and at 70 and being requested to do a Driving Test at this age is something that should not take place. A medical certificate should be sufficient for a renewed Licence after all people who have had their licence for 40 years should not be requested to do a further Driving Test”*

This proposal was seconded by Cllr. G. Finnerty, and agreed.

Cllr. G. Finnerty made the following proposal: *“I propose Galway Co Council send a letter of congratulations to Derek O’Connor, Derryowen, Tubber, Co. Galway. Derek recently excelled on the sports field when he rode his 1000 Pt. 2 Pt. winner on Sunday 15th Feb when an opportunity arose. I propose that Derek be invited in for a Civic Reception”*. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Fahy, and agreed.

Cllr. Cunniffe made the following proposal: *“Having heard from Mr. Sean Griffin, Assistant Principal, Communications Policy, at the D.C.E.N.R that the development of the network to provide high speed broadband to rural areas will take “detailed planning and considerable time” I propose that we write to the Minister for C.E.N.R. and outline our opposition and rejection to this long fingered approach and insist that resources are made available immediately to fund the rolling out of broadband infrastructure and stop the delay of this vital resource for the rejuvenation of rural areas”*. This proposal was seconded Cllr. Charity, and agreed.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Cllr. D. Connolly proposed: *"That Galway County Council recognise the need for safety for children at play in the housing estates in which they live, calls on the Minister for Transport to pass the Road Traffic Amendment Bill for 2015, commonly known as Jake's Law, in order to introduce a new mandatory speed limit of 20km per hour specifically for housing estates"*. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Healy, and agreed.

Cllr. M. Finnerty said that while he supports this Motion, it is his view that it will be very difficult to drive at a speed of 20km per hour.

Cllr. Cuddy referred to the proposals for the N6 Galway City Transport Project and he made the following proposal: *"I propose that a complete halt be put to the progression of the proposed Galway Outer City Bypass based on the five routes that are presently on display and that the Consultants should go back to the drawing board and look at other more practical and acceptable alternatives"*. This proposal was seconded by Comh. Ó Curraoin.

The Chief Executive said that the need to address the traffic problems was well known with broad agreement that something needed to be done. He asked that they bear in mind that each of the corridors is 150m wide and the process would culminate in one preferred route being selected, and subsequently refined to a route of between 25 - 50m wide. It is also important to recognise that the consultation phase regarding the project is under way at present and the views of the public will feed into the decision making process in order to select the emerging preferred route. He stated that it is important that the public submit their views on the proposed routes to the Council and acknowledged that there are varying numbers of homes affected by each of the proposed routes, the original route would also have resulted in homes being knocked.

He said he was concerned that the Members might be discussing the matter without the full information on the proposals and advised them to await the March Monthly Meeting of the Council when the National Roads Project Office and the Consultants would make a presentation to the Members on the proposals. He also said there was a risk involved in the Members discussing a matter without the full facts and this might undermine the project in its entirety. He explained that the decision making process is one for the Council Executive and the National Roads Authority. He recommended that the Members seek to receive a full presentation from the Roads Project Office at the March Monthly Meeting in order to get full clarity on how the project has progressed to date and proposals for its further progression.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

The Leas-Chathaoirleach thanked the Chief Executive for his advice to the Members and she said that the Members must be mindful that a lot of people are in a vulnerable position and they should not be given false hope.

Cllr. Cuddy said it must be acknowledged that there is total opposition to all of the routes proposed and that people are distraught at the prospect of their homes being affected. He said the Members must bring forward the views of their constituents.

Cllr. McClearn said it is understandable that there is disquiet among the public but irrespective of where the bypass goes, it is going to cause major disruption. He said it is regrettable that the Members have no function in the decision making process regarding the route but he said the Members would compound the problem by passing a motion that will not in any way impact on what is proposed and would send out a confused message to people who may think the motion would have an effect. He said that it is not possible to select a route that everyone will support. He asked Cllr. Cuddy to wait until the Members get full information regarding the proposal before putting forward his motion.

Cllr. McClearn then made the following proposal *"I propose that we invite the consultants and the NRA to the March meeting to deliver a presentation on the Galway City Transport solution and that no motion be taken by this council on the subject until that presentation is received"*. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Feeney.

Cllr. J. Byrne stated that he accepted the advice received from the Chief Executive and agreed with the proposal put forward by Cllr. McClearn in order to allow an informed discussion and decision on the matter.

The Leas-Chathaoirleach asked Cllr. Cuddy if he wished to postpone his Motion.

Cllr. Cuddy replied that he would not withdraw his proposal as he has received a lot of representations from the public opposing all of the proposed routes.

Cllr. Thomas said that while he supported an outer bypass he was not in favour of the current proposals in terms of the scale of the potential impact on family homes in order to avoid habitat.

Comh. Ó Curraoin said it was outrageous that the original Galway City Outer Bypass did not go ahead because of what he called bureaucrats in Europe.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

Cllr. Kinane made the following proposal: *"I propose that Galway County Council calls for a reassessment of the proposed routes selected for N6 Galway City Transport project subject to an urgent meeting to be arranged between officials from the E.U. commission and local public representatives and representatives of local communities, with the view of seeking clarification of the interpretation of the E.U. directive by Galway County Council, the N.R.A. and ARUP where they state the preservation of even the smallest amount of priority outweighs the destruction of large amount of houses and homes. We call on our four MEP's from North West constituency to arrange such a meeting and that this matter should be further discussed by Galway Co. Council"*. This proposal was seconded by Comh. Ó Tuairisg.

Comh. Ó Tuairisg said it is important that clarification is received from the E.U. Commission and he said he understands the concerns of people who fear that their homes will be affected because of the proposed routes.

The Chief Executive said that Cllr. Kinane's proposal would involve a number of people including members of local communities, local representatives and the E.U. Commission and would be premature without the Members knowing the full facts on the proposed routes. He said that in his view, a presentation from the Roads Project Office to the Members should be awaited before agreeing any motion. He advised that there was no decision to be made in the intervening period and there was no disadvantage to deferring consideration pending a full briefing on the project.

After further discussion, the Leas-Chathaoirleach read out the proposal received from Cllr. Kinane and also the proposal received from Cllr. Kearney as follows:

Cllr. Kearney made the following proposal: *"I Propose that Galway County Council ensure that Arup revisit all of the current proposals in solving the N6 Galway City Transport Project immediately. I appreciate that a solution is needed to solve the traffic congestion in Galway City, but the proposals suggested are totally unsuitable. I enclose a number of suggestions and I would respectfully ask Galway Co Council to ask Arup to look at these proposals. I make these proposals as solutions to the current anger by the people of Galway, by looking at the areas where there is current gridlock. The Headford Road to Ballybrit, the Quincentenary Bridge, Seamus Quirke Road. I ask to Local Authority to immediately ask Arup to revisit with a view to moving away from their proposal, although parts of some of these can still be used within the framework. However first priority must be given to people's homes and their livelihoods"*

This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Donohue.

It was proposed by Cllr. Welby, seconded by Cllr. Mannion and agreed to hold a Special Meeting of the Council on Monday 2nd March, 2015 at 3.00 pm in a venue to be determined in order for the Members to receive a full briefing on the project.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

As it had reached 7 pm the Leas-Chathaoirleach, in accordance with the resolution of Council that the meeting end no later than 7pm, brought the meeting to a close.

NOTICES OF MOTION

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 15 – CLLR. J. CUDDY 2001

The following reply was given:-

“The revision of the new Development Contribution Scheme will be the first item of business for the new Planning SPC. Dates will be set by that Committee but it is the intention that a substantial basis for a draft scheme will be ready for consideration by the SPC at the first meeting.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 – CLLR. M. FAHY 2002

The following reply was given:-

“There are currently 4,200 applicants on Galway County Council’s waiting list.

There are currently 149 vacant houses of which 80 are either in the allocation process or on our 2015 work programme to bring back into use in the current year.

The balance of units are bring currently examined as part of the Council’s multi-annual programme under the Social Housing Strategy.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 – CLLR. M. FAHY 2003

The following reply was given:-

“It has been advised Ardrahan Heritage Group apply to the Galway County Council Community Support Scheme. To this end a scheme application form with accompanying guidelines has been sent to the Group. The closing date of February 26th 2015 at 4.00pm for the scheme has been noted in this correspondence.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 18 – CLLR. M. FAHY 2004

The following reply was given:-

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 23rd February 2015

“Due to lack of funding it will not be possible to install road markings on the local road from Kiltartan to Kinvara in 2015.”

NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 19 – COMH. S. Ó TUAIRISG

2005

The following reply was given:-

“Tá an nós imeachta maidir le struchtúr faoi chosaint a bhaint don liosta leagtha amach in Alt 55 den Acht um Phleanáil & Forbairt 2000. Tá fógra d’úinéirí talún, an moladh a fhógairt sna páipéir agus fáilte a chuir roimh aighneachtaí agus comhlachtaí reachtúla a chuir ar an eolas ar fad mar pháirt de. Táthar ag súil go bhfeadfaí an phróiseas a thosú i mí Márta/ Aibreán 2015 sa gcás seo.”

CRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIÚ ANSIN.

