

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**MINUTES OF LOUGHREA AREA COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT LOUGHREA REGIONAL OFFICES ON  
WEDNESDAY, 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2010**

**LLATHAIR**

**Baill:**

Cllr. B. Willers, Chairperson  
Cllr. J. McClearn  
Cllr. P. Hynes  
Cllr. M. Fahy  
Cllr. M. Maher  
Cllr. G. Finnerty

**Oifigigh:**

Mr. J. Cullen, D.O.S., Environment & Water Services Unit  
Mr. M. Lavelle, S.E., Roads & Transportation Unit  
Mr. A. Raftery, E.E., Loughrea Engineering Area  
Mr. C. Mitchell, E.E., Portumna Engineering Area  
Mr. J. Costello, E.E., Gort Engineering Area  
Ms. A. Power, S.S.O., Loughrea Regional Offices

**DEPUTATION FROM PETERSWELL RE: SAFETY AT  
PETERSWELL N.S.**

The Chairperson welcomed Messrs. F. Walsh, A. Massey and Ms. Creaven to the Meeting. The Deputation stated that they had requested this deputation to highlight the dangerous situation outside Peterswell N.S. They stated that the speed of the traffic passing the school was such that it was extremely difficult to pull out and there had been many near-misses in the past number of months. They requested that the Council would look at the situation and suggested lowering of the speed limit outside the school would help alleviate the situation. They also referred to a wall that was recently built by the Council and requested that it be extended out further and that a footpath would be installed. They also stated that overtaking occurs passing the school and requested that the continuous white line be extended to the cross to prevent this continuing. They also requested more signage be erected to make drivers aware of fact that there was a school ahead.

## **Loughrea Area Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

The Members suggested that the monitoring of speed outside schools be raised at a future County JPC Meeting and it was felt that a Garda presence outside the school from time to time would encourage people to slow down. The Meeting agreed that the major difficulty was non-recognition/compliance with the signage that was erected. It was stated that as the school was on a National Secondary route, any proposal to reduce speed on this road would have to be approved by the N.R.A.

The Deputation then left the Meeting.

Mr. Lavelle explained that when the new motorway was opened, it was expected that the volume of traffic on this road would be reduced and local traffic would be not speeding through. He stated that both Peterswell and Castledaly N.S. would be better off as a result of the opening of the new motorway in terms of reduced traffic on the N66. After discussion it was agreed that that the continuous white line on the road outside school be extended up to the Crossroads.

## **MINUTES OF LOUGHREA AREA MEETING HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2010**

On the proposal of Cllr. Fahy, seconded by Cllr. Finnerty, the Minutes of the Loughrea Area Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2010 were confirmed.

### **Matters Arising from Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

#### Deputation from Athenry Road/Meadowbrook Court Residents

Cllr. Hynes asked for an update on the matter. Cllr. Willers stated that she visited the site earlier that day and stated that the hoarding was still in place, was quite high and it was open from the Meadowbrook Court side. She stated that the ground was incredibly rough and there would be a high cost involved in levelling off the site and providing pedestrian access. Cllr. Hynes queried when the site reverted back to the Council. Mr. Cullen explained that the Developer of the Swimming Pool site did not own the site. He explained that when he was building the hotel and awaiting Departmental approval, he had asked for permission to use the site. This was agreed upon with some conditions attached which included erecting fencing/hoarding around the site and that when the pool was built that there would be pedestrian access through the site. He further advised that planning permission for the pool had recently expired. He said that the Council has since asked for confirmation that the swimming pool development was still going ahead but advised that they hadn't had a comprehensive reply from him as yet. He said that they needed to know if it was going ahead or not and as soon as they had a reply the Members would be informed of same.

Road near Cregclare Crossroads, Ardrahan

Cllr. Fahy asked if the potholes on the Cregclare road would be repaired. Mr. Costello advised that works were being carried out on this road after the holidays but stated that the potholes would be repaired in the meantime.

Deputation from Gables Residents Association

Cllr. McClearn queried if there was any update in relation to the issues raised by the Deputation from the Gables Residents Association. Ms. Power stated that she requested Mr. Sheil, S.E.E. Housing Section to respond directly to Cllr. McClearn on this.

Traught Beach, Kinvara

Cllr. Finnerty queried why Traught Beach had lost its Blue Flag status. Mr. Cullen stated that it was based on one poor water quality sample result. He advised that when it was re-sampled afterwards it was fine again.

Car-Park Kinvara

Cllr. Finnerty queried if there was any progress in relation to the provision of a car-park for Kinvara. Mr. Lavelle advised that no contact had been made by Mr. Kavanagh to the Council to-date in relation to a suitable site.

Bullaun School – Flooding

Cllr. Finnerty asked if there was any update in relation to the flooding problem at Bullaun N.S. Mr. Raftery advised that the pipe was cleaned out in the past week.

Sewerage Pipe on Bride Street

Cllr. Maher asked when it was anticipated that works would be carried out. Mr. Raftery advised that it would be end of year before they would get to complete the works and its completion was dependant on funding being available.

Ardvough Housing Estate, Kinvara

Cllr. Willers queried what works were agreed to be carried out at the last meeting and what was the up-to-date position on it. Mr. Lavelle stated that the Notice of Motion monies would be used for the installation of a footpath from Fallon's to J. Burke's as the existing footpath was in poor condition and yellow lines to be installed around this bend to prevent cars parking there. Mr. Lavelle asked the Members to transfer their allocation they had previously made to these proposed works and to get the paper work completed as soon as possible to enable the works to commence.

## **Loughrea Area Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

### Verge Trimming

Cllr. Maher referred to ivy that was growing out and was restricting visibility near Ballymore, Craughwell and asked that it be trimmed back. Mr. Raftery took note of same.

### N66 – Bad Potholes

Cllr. Willers queried when the improvement works would commence on the N66. She said that the potholes on the road verges on both sides of the road had gotten extremely bad in recent times, from Castledaly in to Loughrea town. Mr. Lavelle advised that the Road Design Section were in discussion with landowners in the Coscorrig area who are requesting that their walls be replaced as their walls would be lowered as part of the works. He advised that there were no monies available to replace the walls and they may need to plane back the road to its original level to address the issue. He said that the Road Design Section is currently preparing designs for the N66 which have to be submitted to the N.R.A. in the coming days. The commencement of works was dependant on when approval was received from the N.R.A.

Cllr. Maher queried if works on a section of the Loughrea/Athenry Road would be ready to commence should funding be made available. Mr. Lavelle stated that the Design Section was working on completing the designs for the roads which they had received funding for and Athenry Road was not included in that.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### Smarter Travel Bid Update

Cllr. Willers queried if there was any update in relation to Loughrea Smarter Travel Bid recently submitted to the Department of Transport. Mr. Cullen advised that results were expected by the end of July.

### Proposal for Road to be taken in Charge

On the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. Willers, the Members approved that the following road be taken in charge:

“Commencing at end of local road L-82471 in the Townland of Earlsparck and extending East for a distance of 441 metres in the townland of Earlsparck and finishing at Brian Barrett’s house in the Townland of Earlsparck.”

## **Loughrea Area Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

### Proposal for 10 Tonne Weight Restriction for L-7182 Bookeen Road & L-7204 Tooloobaunbeg Road

Report dated 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010 in relation to proposal for a ten tonne weight restriction for L-7182 Bookeen Road & L-7204 Tooloobaunbeg Road was circulated to the Members. It was explained that the weight restriction was requested so as to prevent HGV's using the L-7182 and L-7204 routes as a short-cut to access the new M6 motorway. It was approved on the proposal of Cllr. Maher, seconded by Cllr. Hynes.

### Car-Park Bye-Laws – Backlawn Car Park & Church Street Car Park, Athenry

Report dated 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010 was circulated to each Member. Mr. Lavelle explained that it was proposed to advance Car Park Bye-Laws to facilitate the operation of pay parking in both car parks. He explained that this would necessitate the adoption of car park bye-laws for each car park. The procedure for the adoption of Bye-Laws for car parks is as set out in Section 101 of the Road Traffic Act 1961 and provides for consultation with the public and An Garda Síochána. He said that it was now intended to proceed to public display and consultation with An Garda Síochána in connection with these Bye-Laws. The Members noted same.

### Bus Stops

Mr. Lavelle advised the Meeting that a proposal had been received from private bus companies in relation to the erection of bus shelters. He advised that this would be considered and further discussed at the next Roads and Transportation SPC Meeting. Cllr. Willers stated that she had received a number of representations regarding requests for a bus stop on the Ennis Road, Gort and asked that this would be considered.

### Water Upgrade Gort

Mr. Cullen advised that works on the Gort Water Treatment Plant were going well. He advised that there would be some disruption for a few weeks and it was anticipated that works would be completed by end of September. He advised that they were liaising with the Roads Department in relation to when works on the resurfacing of the roadway could commence.

**Chrochnaigh an Cruinniú ansin**