

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Minutes of Ballinasloe Area Committee held at the Civic Offices, Ballinasloe on Monday, 8th February, 2010.

I Láthair:

Báill: Cllr. P. Connaughton, Chairman
Cllr. T. Brodeick
Cllr. T. Mannion
Cllr. D. Connolly
Cllr. M. Mullins

Oifigigh: Mr. K. Kelly, Director of Services
Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. M. Dolly, Senior Engineer
Mr. M. Lavelle, Senior Engineer
Mr. U. Finn, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. A. Headd, Executive Engineer
Mr. E. Mulryan, Executive Engineer
Ms. M. Carty, Assistant Staff Officer

Sympathy

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Connaughton and agreed to extend a vote of sympathy to Enda Mulryan, Area Engineer, Ballinasloe West, on the death of his brother.

1. Consideration and adoption of Minutes of Meetings held on 13th November, 2009 and on 23rd November, 2009.

Minutes of Meeting held on 13th November, 2009 and 23rd November, 2009 were proposed by Cllr. Mullins and seconded by Cllr. Broderick.

2. Matters Arising

Pavement on Shannonbridge Road

Cllr. Connolly said that the traffic calming measures on the Shannonbridge Road have been very effective. However he asked that the Council focus on the provision of a footpath on the left hand side.

N6 Construction.

In reply to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Dolly said that the damage caused to the roads by N6 construction traffic, in particular the road from Garbally gates to the footbridge at Mackney has been raised with N6 Construction. Mr. Lavelle assured the meeting that any issues raised at the Area Meetings regarding any aspect of the N6 contract are raised with N6 Construction through the NRDO office.

3. Revision of Road Restoration Grants 2010

Mr. Lavelle said that, in view of the fact that no additional funding is available to specifically address the significant deterioration of the local road network caused by the severe weather, it will be necessary to review the 2010 Restoration Improvement Programme. He said that the review will take into consideration the need to undertake remedial works on the roads as identified in the existing 2010 Restoration Improvement Programme and any additional roads impacted by the recent severe weather. The following Revised Early Starts Programme 2010 for Ballinasloe East and Ballinasloe West, as circulated at the meeting, was adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Mannion:

BALLINASLOE WEST

Road No	Road Name	Year	Length (Metres)	Total area (Sq Metres)	Est Cost of Work
R339	Monivea	2010	260	1300	39,000
R359	Castleblakeney to Ballymacward	2010	155	555	16,000
L7172	Gortfadda to Cloonbenes	2010	220	880	25,600
L7423	Kilconnell to Cloonacallen	2010	266	1064	29,250
L3117	Killaclogher Bridge to Temple	2010	220	990	32,500
Total					142,350

BALLINASLOE EAST

Road No	Road Name	Year	Length (Metres)	Total area (Sq Metres)	Est Cost of Work
L3405	Kilglass to Castlefrench	2010	750	4500	120,000
L4304	Kiltormer Village-Ballinasloe Rd.	2010	270	1755	43,875
L4301	Kiltormer Village- Kiltormer to Laurencetown	2010	410	2460	61,500
L3408	Deerpark Ballinasloe	2010	400	2800	70,000
L3210	Ballyforan to Castlefrench Bog Road	2010	750	4500	125,000
Total					420,375

It was proposed by Cllr. Mullins, seconded by Cllr. Mannion and agreed that a motion be sent to the Council calling on the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government to provide additional funding to repair the significant damage caused to the road network by the severe weather recently.

4. Planning in East of County - Post M6

Mr. Kelly said that, in view of the accessibility of East Galway, with the opening of the M6, consideration should be given to reviewing the policies in the Galway County Development Plan as they relate to the East of the county and the members accepted that some consideration of the issue would be necessary. The members asked about the old N6 and Mr. Kelly confirmed that this was still a strategic route carrying a high level of traffic and that restrictions would remain.

5. Greenstar Landfill

Máire Ni Chionna informed the members about the roles of the Council and the EPA in relation to the Greenstar Landfill. She said that issues of an environmental nature were a matter for the E.P.A.

It was proposed by Cllr. Mannion seconded by Cllr. Connaughton and agreed that a motion be sent to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government requesting that the Minister not impose any charges that would result in an increase in waste charges.

Cllr. Connolly requested that the Council seek finance from the Environmental Levy Fund to carry out covert operations at areas where illegal dumping is being carried out.

7. Any other business

Mr. Lavelle said that there are five towns/villages in County Galway that received more than 275 points in the Tidy Towns Competition. He asked the members to give consideration to the allocation of Notice of Motion funding to improve the position of at least one of these towns/villages. The members agreed to consider specific proposals in due course.

8. Presentation on the River Basin District Plan

Máire Ni Chionna gave a presentation on the River Basin District Plans including the Shannon River Basin District Plan which covers many areas in East Galway. She explained that the Water Framework Directive (WFD) is an initiative aimed at improving water quality throughout the EU. She said that the Directive requires a co-ordinated approach to water management in respect of whole river basins with a view to maintaining high status of waters where it exists, preventing any deterioration in the existing status of waters and achieving at least “good status” in relation to all waters by 2015.

Following a discussion on the recent flooding in Ballinasloe it was proposed by Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Mullins and agreed, that a letter be sent to Minister Mansergh, Minister of State with special responsibility for the OPW, seeking significant flood prevention measures for Ballinasloe similar to those in Carlow, Mallow and Fermoy.

Mr. Dolly said that there had been a request from the OPW for submission of flooding relief works to a maximum of €500,000. He said that if the members are aware of any minor works they should submit them to Mr. Finn for consideration.

Mr. Dolly said that he is now transferring to work on the Water Services Capital Programme and he thanked members for their help and assistance during his time as Senior Engineer with the Roads and Transportation Unit.

Mr. Mullins wished Mr. Dolly well in his new assignment and thanked him for his courtesy and co-operation and he said he looked forward to working with him in his new role. Cllr. Connaughton and the other members also wished to be associated with these comments.

Cllr. Connaughton thanked Máire Ni Chionna for her presentation.

Criochnaigh an Chrinniu ansin