

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. M. Connolly

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Cllrs. D. Connolly, D. Geraghty, A. Harney, P. Keaveney, E. Parsons

**Oifigigh:** Ms. J. Carroll Director of Service, D. Troy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Monaghan Staff Officer, Ms. M. McGann Meetings Administrator

An Cathaoirleach M. Connolly and all the members thanked all the staff of Galway County Council, Galway Fire Service, An Garda Síochána, ESB, Broadband Providers, Eircom, and all local contractors and farmers who helped respond to issues during Storm Darragh.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** **MDB24065**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Parsons and seconded by Cllr. Geraghty.

The members wished their previous Elected Member colleagues and other local candidates every success in their appointment as T.D.'s and expressed the wish that they would lobby for additional funding to deliver for the County which was under-funded in relative terms. Cllr. M. Connolly commiserated with Cllr. D. Geraghty and all unsuccessful candidates, and paid tribute to all who put themselves forward on the ballot paper.

**Matters arising from the Minutes.**

In response to Cllr. Harney regarding lighting issues at Dunlo Hill and the bridge, Mr. Troy stated that he would revert with an update from Electric Skyline. Cllr. M. Connolly welcomed the new public lighting at Menlough (MDB24064).

In response to Cllr. Parsons with regard the provision of an emergency slipway in Ballinasloe, Mr. Troy advised that he was still liaising with landowners. In response to

Cllr. Parsons with reference to including the slipway as part of the Swimming Feasibility Study, Ms. Carroll advised she was awaiting technical input to progress and would provide an update on this at the January Meeting (MDB24059).

In response to Cllr. Harney and Cllr. Parsons regarding Creagh Junction, Mr. Troy advised that it was expected that the pedestrian lights at the Church Part of Creagh Junction would be completed before Christmas. Mr. Troy advised that funding had been sought to upgrade the Taughmaconnell Road Junction and if successful, a potential solution could be the provision of a mini roundabout at the location to include for a cycle lane. Cllr. Harney asked that manholes at this junction be assessed as a short-term measure (MDB24059).

Cllr. Geraghty and Cllr. Keaveney welcomed the recent arrests by An Garda Síochána in relation to ongoing investigation into an organised crime gang carrying out burglaries across the North-West Region of the country as part of Operation Thor (MDB24064).

**CONSIDERATION OF A DECLARATION OF A ROAD TO BE A PUBLIC ROAD AT CARROWNTOBER EAST, GLENAMADDY**

**MDB24066**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney seconded by Cllr. Geraghty, the Council approved the declaration of the following roads to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:

Road commencing at Junction with L-6328 (563869, 758812) in the townland of Carrowntober East and extending South for 98 metres in the townland of Carrowntober East and finishing at Connealy's Old House (563843, 758719) in the townland of Carrowntober East.

**CONSIDERATION OF A DECLARATION OF A ROAD TO BE A PUBLIC ROAD AT GLENTAUN, CREAGH, BALLINASLOE**

**MDB24067**

On the proposal of Cllr. Harney seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, the Council approved the declaration of the following roads to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:

Road commencing at its junction with the L-86084 at point A and extending in a Westerly direction for approximately 120m, then extending in a Northerly direction for approximately 93m to a point B adjacent to house with Eircode H53 AY28 for a total distance of approximately 213m (all in the Townland of Glentaun).

Cllr. D. Connolly paid tribute to previous Elected Members who had contributed towards upgrading this road under relevant funding.

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

**MDB24068**

Ms. Carroll provided an update to the members on the Dunlo Hill Project confirming that the closing date for submission of tenders had been extended to 10<sup>th</sup> December and it was intended to proceed to contract signing with the successful tenderer immediately after the closing date. Cllr. D. Connolly welcomed the progress on Dunlo Hill and stated that the staff and Elected Members need to focus on identified housing needs, with a strong focus on right-sizing options such as Dunlo Hill.

In relation to the Housing Needs Analysis for Ballinasloe, Ms. Carroll noted that data on social housing demand was publicly available on the Council Website at <https://www.galway.ie/en/services/housing/supplydemand/> and this data was used to inform of unit sizes and specific needs in an area. In response to further issues raised by the Members, Ms. Carroll advised she would request that the Director of Housing, or a nominee, would attend a Municipal District Meeting to discuss housing issues including current social housing demand statistics, updates on projects within the Ballinasloe MD, housing maintenance processes and response times, housing allocation process, and general queries processes such as Tenant Responsibilities, etc. Ms. Carroll confirmed that once the meeting was arranged, she would contact Members to invite specific questions to be addressed at the meeting and the issue of GDPR with regard Elected Members making representations on behalf of the public could also be addressed at the meeting.

Ms. Carroll confirmed that staff appointments to the Local Community Safety Partnership Committee were effective from January 2025, 7 Elected Members had been assigned at the Plenary Meeting, and the post of Chairperson was being finalised in advance of Regulations being issued by the Minister.

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

**MDB24069**

Cllr. M. Connolly advised that the Mountbellew Sheep Shearing Committee were requesting a deputation with the members prior to the January meeting of the Municipal District and this was agreed.

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS**

**MDB24070**

*Votes of Sympathy:*

The Cummins Family on the passing of John Cummins, Clonberne, Ballinasloe  
The Clifford Family on the passing of Michael Clifford Jnr, Kilkerrin, Ballinasloe  
The Murphy Family on the passing of Linda Murphy, Glenamaddy  
The Boyle Family on the passing of Brendan Boyle, Mountbellew  
The Monaghan Family on the passing of Bridie Shanagher, Glenamaddy  
The Dunne Family on the passing of Cyril Dunne, Creagh, Ballinasloe

*Votes of Congratulations:*

Congratulations to Kilkerrin Clonberne Ladies Football Club on reaching the All-Ireland Senior Football Final

Congratulations to Sarsfields Ladies Camogie Club on reaching the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Final

Congratulations to Ahascragh/Caltra Camogie Club on reaching the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Club Final

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**MD824071**

Cllr. Geraghty stated that following on from Storm Darragh, there was a need for additional outdoor staffing resources in Municipal Districts to address ongoing cleaning of drains and culverts throughout the district and build knowledge of local access and drainage issues.

Cllr. P. Keaveney stated that as storms become more frequent, there is a need for a funding scheme to provide financial assistance to landowners in dealing with and removing problem trees. Following discussion, it was agreed that the following Motion be brought to the Plenary Meeting:

*"I will propose that we write to the relevant Government Department to seek funding for landowners towards the removal of dangerous trees growing on the roadside."*

Proposed: Cllr. P. Keaveney

Seconded: Cllr. M. Connolly

Cllr. D. Connolly asked that an update on the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme be provided at the February meeting of the Municipal District.

Cllr. D. Connolly asked that all remember the people of Palestine this Christmas in light of the genocide continuing in areas under occupation by Israel.

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on 8<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm.

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Signed:



Dated:

