

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2024 AT 2.30 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, Ms. R. Lowe senior Engineer, D. Troy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Monaghan Staff Officer, Ms. M. McGann Administrator

Prior to the meeting, the Municipal District Members received two deputations:

1. Ballyforan Greenway Committee on development of a footpath linking the Greenway Carpark to the bridge on Ahascragh Road L3406.
2. Ballinasloe Social Services and Family Resource Centre on development of the Community & Family Resource Centre in Ballinasloe.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BALLINASLOE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON 16TH OCTOBER 2024

MDB24059

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 16th October 2024 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. Parsons.

Matters arising from the Minutes.

In response to Cllr. Harney regarding Creagh Junction, Mr. Troy advised that he had made an application for a Specific Improvement Grant and an application for funding via the Just Transition Fund to fund the proposed Creagh Junction Project. Cllr. M. Connolly advised that the LCDC (Local Community Development Committee) had supported the application for funding via the Just Transition Fund. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Troy advised that the pedestrian works being carried out at Creagh Junction were nearing completion. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Troy advised that the bollards could be assessed with regard visibility at the junction, but the major issue at this location was persons parking too near the junction (MDB24052).

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Troy advised that he had been in contact with Waterways Ireland with regard the provision of an emergency slipway in Ballinasloe, and

advised he would continue to liaise with Waterways Ireland and the private landowners. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Ms. Carroll advised that she would examine if the provision of a slipway could be included in the swimming area feasibility study (MDB24052).

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard increasing the housing stock to enable more independent living units, Ms. Carroll advised that she would request an update on this issue and the Dunlo Hill housing project from the Housing Directorate for the December Meeting (MDB24053).

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING OF BALLINASLOE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON 16TH OCTOBER 2024

MDB24060

The Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District held on Wednesday 16th October were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. Harney.

Matters arising from the Minutes.

No matters arising.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB24061

Ms. Carroll advised that a debrief meeting was to take place following the October Fair and she would provide an update after same. Cllr. M. Connolly advised that the October Fair Co-Ordinating Committee were disappointed they had not been invited to the October Fair Interagency Meeting. Ms. Carroll stated that the meeting was intended for just the Statutory Agencies involved, however she apologized for any offence caused. Cllr. D. Connolly thanked Ms. Carroll for the income and expenditure figures involved with the Fair and acknowledged the significant financial input of Galway County Council in the running of the October Fair. Cllr. D. Connolly also welcomed the position taken by Galway County Council in providing insurance cover for the Fair. Cllr. D. Connolly asked that the parking situation at Garbally Drive would be re-assessed for the Fair in 2025. In response to Cllr. Parsons with regard the financial impact the Fair has on local businesses, Ms. Carroll advised that she would discuss this issue with the Local Enterprise Office to see if this information could be captured in datasets going forward. In response to Cllr. Harney with regard the drop-off in casual trading stalls for the Fair, Mr. Troy advised that there has been a decrease in the number of stalls since pre-Covid-19 from 100 to 60-70 annually and this trend was also reflected nationwide. Mr. Troy confirmed that the costs for stalls had not been increased.

Ms. Carroll advised that Ballinasloe, Ballygar, Glenamaddy, Mountbellew and Moylough had received funding under the Once-Off Christmas Support Allocation 2024 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Ms. Carroll confirmed that 14 applications had been received from areas within the Municipal District which left the scheme heavily over-subscribed, therefore, it was necessary to prioritise funding for

areas where the allocation would result in additional footfall and retail activity in accordance with the terms of the allocation from the Department.

Ms. Carroll advised that recruitment was ongoing for the Local Community Safety Partnership Committee, with applications for the Chairperson short-listed and the recruitment of staffing positions well advanced. Ms. Carroll advised that the membership of the Committee was set down by the Department of Justice and included for a maximum of 30 members to include 7 elected representatives. Ms. Carroll advised that 20 members would be prescribed by Department of Justice regulations with 10 member positions to be decided by the Chairperson, and further information on membership would be presented at the December Plenary Meeting. Cllr. Geraghty expressed concern that the Joint Policing Committees were already disbanded, leaving no forum in operation until the new Local Community Safety Partnership Committee were set up, and asked that the process be expedited to combat rural crime and other anti-social behaviour issues. In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Ms. J. Carroll advised that the local authority was reliant on the Regulations being implemented at national level and there would be no delays at local level once clarity was received on membership requirements. The members paid tribute to the work being carried out with An Garda Síochána to meet with communities to discuss crime prevention, and also acknowledged the property marking initiatives in communities.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MD824062

It was agreed by all Members to invite representatives from Williamstown to a Civic Reception at the Civic Offices, Ballinasloe, to mark their achievement as Runner-Up in the 0-300 population category in the All-Island Pride of Place Competition. It was also agreed by all Members to invite Nicola Ward to a Civic Reception at the Civic offices, Ballinasloe to mark her achievement as being named 2024 All Stars Senior Player's Player of the Year Award.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS

MD824063

Votes of Sympathy

The Geraghty Family on the passing of Nora Geraghty, St. Michaels Square, Ballinasloe
The McKenna Family on the passing of Mary (Dottie) McKenna, Harbour Road, Ballinasloe
The Owens Family on the passing of Nora Owens, Ballymannion, Menlough, B'Sloe
The O'Riordan Family on the passing of Donal Riordan, Hawthorn Close, Creagh, B'Sloe
The Watters Family on the passing of John Watters, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe
The Heneghan Family on the passing of Rev. Jimmy Heneghan, Ballinlough, Roscommon

Votes of Congratulations.

Congratulations to Ballinasloe on winning the Connacht Junior 1 Hurling Championship
Congratulations to Ballinasloe on winning the County Junior B Camogie Final
Congratulations to Cappataggle Hurling Club on reaching the County Senior Hurling Final

Congratulations to Kilkerrin Clonberne LGFA on winning the Connacht LGFA Senior Club Final and particularly to Nicola Ward on being recognized as Player of the Year.
Congratulations to Williamstown on achieving Runner-Up Award in the 0-300 Population Category of the All-Island Pride of Place Awards.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MD824064

Cllr. Harney asked that an anti-social behaviour task force be set up for Ballinasloe which would facilitate a coordinated response between An Garda Síochána, Galway County Council, and other relevant stakeholders in dealing with anti-social behaviour in the town. In reply, Ms. J. Carroll advised that the Local Community Safety Partnership would address the potential for area-based responses to anti-social behaviour as part of its remit.

In response to Cllrs. Harney and Parsons, Mr. Troy advised that the lighting issues at locations in the town had been reported to Electric Skyline and were lined up for repair. In response to Cllr. Parsons with regard lighting projects already carried out, Mr. Troy advised that the civil works in these projects had all been completed but there were delays in connections by ESB.

Cllr. M. Connolly and the members wished all candidates the best of luck in the upcoming general election.

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on 11th December at 2pm.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Signed:

Michael Connolly

Dated:

11 / 12 / 2024