

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
Held at ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL
Monday, 25th July 2022 at 11.00am

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Michael 'Moegie' Maher

Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Comh./Cllr. T Broderick, J. Byrne, L. Carroll, J. Charity, D. Collins, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, G. Cronnelly, D. Ó Cualáin, J. Cuddy, T. Ó Curraoin, Albert Dolan, G. Donuhue, G. Finnerty, D. Geraghty, S. Herterich Quinn, M. Hoade, D. Kelly, D. Killilea, M. Kinane, G. King, P. Mac an Iomaire, E. Mannion, J. McClearn, K. McHugh Farag, A. McKinstry, E. Francis Parsons, A. Reddington, P. Roche, J. Sheridan, N. Thomas, S. Walsh and T. Welby.

Oifigh: Mr. J. Cullen, Chief Executive, Mr. L. Hanrahan, Director of Services, Mr. M. Owens, Director of Services, Ms. E. Ruane, Director of Services, Ms R. Lowe, Senior Engineer, Mr T. Prendergast, Senior Engineer, Ms A. Fenton, Head of Finance, Mr C. Wynne Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. L. Keady, Meetings Administrator, Ms L. Sharkey Administrative Officer, Ms. B. Ryan, Staff Officer, Ms. E. Hoffman, Clerical Officer. Mr P. Scannell, Clerical Officer

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

ITEM NO.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS

4004

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Carroll **SECONDED** by Cllr. Cuddy the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 17th June 2022 were **AGREED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. O 'Cualáin **SECONDED** by Cllr. Killilea the minutes of the Monthly Plenary Meeting held on 27th June 2022 were **AGREED**.

Concerns were raised over the plan to roll out a new policing plan for Galway and reduce the number of superintendents leaving only three covering the entire county. Members expressed disappointment at the response from the Chief Superintendents Office to a request for a meeting with the Joint Policing Committee (JPC) to discuss the issue. Cllr. Cuddy advised Members he contacted the Chief Superintendents Office to request his attendance at an urgent meeting of the JPC to discuss the matter. The response stated a meeting was not warranted. Cllr. Cuddy considered it was a retrograde step not to meet with the JPC and it reflected badly on the Garda Síochána.

In response to queries regarding hedge cutting Ms. Lowe confirmed Galway County Council carries out hedge cutting and had tendered for hedge cutting earlier in the year. She acknowledged there had since been a significant increase in costs. She informed Members there was no separate budget for hedge cutting work, it was covered within the maintenance budgets and noted there were competing priorities for this. She advised Members if there were specific locations in particular need the matter should be raised at Municipal District level. Regarding the issue of ash dieback, she advised this was the responsibility of the landowners.

In response to queries regarding a speed limit review Ms. Lowe confirmed preparatory work had started in terms of mapping. She advised Members there would be full consultation with the public, Elected Members, public bodies and Transport Infrastructure Ireland during the Speed Limit Review process.

Concerns were raised regarding delays Members were having contacting and arranging meetings with relevant staff to discuss planning issues. It was acknowledged there were significant resource issues and staffing levels needed to be increased. The work and efforts of the Director of Service for Planning was acknowledged. It was noted calls were often received from Planning at 9:00 pm when staff were still working.

The Chief Executive confirmed, as previously agreed, Elected Members would have the same access to Council offices as before as soon as access fobs were available. He advised members that staffing levels were currently 25% lower than the mid 2000's while at the same time there had been a significant increase in the volume of work, particularly in planning and housing. He reminded Members that the gross underfunding of Galway County Council translated directly into understaffing. He noted he had employed more staff since taking office, but he was limited in this regard due to a lack of funding. He said it was important Members understood the incredible pressure staff were under.

ITEM NO.2 CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 4005

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Killilea **SECONDED** by Cllr. M Connolly the minutes of the Planning, Environment, Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee held on 30th March 2022 were **NOTED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McKinstry **SECONDED** by Cllr. Roche the minutes of the Corporate Policy Committee held on 14th April 2022 were **NOTED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Roche **SECONDED** by Comh O 'Curraoin the minutes of the Transportation & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee held on 20th April 2022 were **NOTED**.

ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 10.8 SQ. M. OF LAND AT BRIDGE STREET, HEADFORD, CO. GALWAY. 4006

Statutory Notice issued in accordance with section 183(1)(b) and report dated 12th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Hoade **SECONDED** by Cllr. Reddington it was **AGREED** to dispose 10.8 sqm. of land at Bridge Street, Headford, Co. Galway.

ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 3.32 HECTARES OF LAND AT TULLYBRATTAN, GORT, CO. GALWAY. 4007

Statutory Notice issued in accordance with section 183(1)(b) and report dated 12th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Byrne **SECONDED** by Cllr. Finnerty it was **AGREED** to dispose 3.32 hectares of land at Tullybrattan, Gort, Co. Galway.

ITEM NO. 5 FILLING OF CASUAL VACANCY AS THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE & EMERGENCY SERVICES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE. 4008

Report dated 20th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Hoade **SECONDED** by Cllr. Finnerty it was **AGREED** to appoint Cllr. Curley as the Chairperson of the Planning, Environment, Agriculture & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee.

ITEM NO.6 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE, APPROVE GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL ENTERING AN AGREEMENT WITH MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL UNDER SECTION 85 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 FOR THE DESIGN, PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF A RELIEF ROAD AT CONG. 4009

Report dated 15th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. O 'Curraoin **SECONDED** by Cllr. King it was **AGREED** to approve Galway County Council entering an agreement with Mayo County Council under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 for the design, planning and delivery of a relief road at Cong.

ITEM NO.7 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE ADOPT THE BYE-LAWS FOR THE REGULATION OF INIS OÍRR HARBOUR IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 19 (BYE-LAWS) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM ACT 2014, AND BY VIRTUE OF SECTION 89 OF THE HARBOURS ACT, 1996 AND SECTIONS 13, 42 AND THE SIXTH SCHEDULE OF THE SAID HARBOURS ACT AS AMENDED. 4010

Report dated 15th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Mannion **SECONDED** by Cllr. McKinstry it was **AGREED** to adopt the bye-laws for the regulation of Inis Oírr Harbour in accordance with Part 19 (bye-laws) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, and by virtue of Section 89 of the Harbours Act, 1996 and Sections 13, 42 and the sixth schedule of the said Harbours Act as amended.

The following queries and points were raised by Cllrs. Mannion O 'Curraoin, Welby, Mac An Iomaire and O'Cualáin

- The bye-laws were welcome, the pier was overcrowded and needed regulation.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the banning of vehicles allowed on the pier and the charges being introduced. Would vehicles be charged to collect the goods from a boat? When will the charges be introduced?
- Regarding a small area for boats just outside the boundary area for the bye-laws, concern was raised the area would be impacted by the operation of the pier under the new bye-laws. It may be turned into a holding ground with the new rules for loading, unloading and time limits for goods left at the pier.
- It is important there is consultation with ferry operators if charges per passenger are being introduced.
- Concerns were raised regarding the idea of introduction of the fees per passengers. Suggest the need to examine fee structures in other local authorities, e.g. Clare County Council have set fees for the year which is more streamlined.
- Concerns were raised regarding the removal of tour operators off the pier. Will they move onto the road? Concern was raised there is no Traffic Management plan in place. Who will police the bye-laws?

Members queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Prendergast:

- We are in an interim situation in advance of the redevelopment of the pier.
- The reason for the introduction of the byelaws is to bring order to the situation as it currently exists and to ensure a safe working environment for all users. The byelaws aim is to strike a balance.
- The Harbour Master will have control on all issues in relation to the operation of the pier under the bye-laws. Pier users will engage with the Harbour Master and he will ensure all operations can go on at the same time in a safe way.
- Regarding the small area outside the bye-law area, it is not expected it will be impacted by the introduction of the bye-laws. This can be reviewed if a problem arises.
- The position of the Harbour Master will be advertised once the bye-laws have been passed and it is expected they will come into force by 1st September.

ITEM NO.8 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE ADOPT THE ROAD TRAFFIC (SPECIAL SPEED LIMITS) COUNTY GALWAY BYE-LAWS, NO. 1 – 2021 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 2004.

4011

Report dated 15th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McHugh **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mannion it was **AGREED** to adopt the Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) County Galway bye-laws, no. 1 – 2021 in accordance with section 9 of the Road Traffic Act 2004.

ITEM NO.9 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO APPROVE A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE OPERATION OF IRISH WATER SAFETY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 67 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001.

4012

Report dated 19th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McClearn **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mannion it was **AGREED** to approve a contribution towards the operation of Irish Water Safety in accordance with section 67 of the Local Government Act 2001.

ITEM NO.10 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE TO AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, OTHER EVENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED). 4013

Report dated 15th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. King **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hoade it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs P. Keaveney & Hoade to attend 'The Suck Valley Way -Rural Regeneration Post Pandemic: The Challenges and Opportunities to Unlocking our Potential' at the Abbey Hotel, Roscommon on the 27th to 28th April 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

ITEM NO.11 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5A) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED). 4014

Report dated 15th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. King **SECONDED** by Comh. Mac an Iomaire it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllr. McClearn & O 'Curraoin to attend AILG 'Autumn Training Conference' at Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co. Meath on the 14th–15th September 2022.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh o Curraoin **SECONDED** by Cllr Killilea it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. McClearn & Kinane to attend AILG 'Module 4 'Government Legislation Policy Programme 2022 – A Briefing for Elected Members' at the Horse & Jockey Hotel, Thurles (alternative location) on the 21st July 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh O Cualáin **SECONDED** by Comh O Curraoin it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllr. Welby to attend AILG Module 3 'Finalising your Development Plan – key steps and requirements from the Development Plan Guidelines' at the Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone on the 16th June 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

ITEM NO.12 TO CONSIDER THE MANAGEMENT REPORT – JULY 2022 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 136(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED). 4015

Report dated 21st July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Hoade **SECONDED** by Cllr. Byrne the Management Report – July 2022 in accordance with section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) was **NOTED**.

The following queries and points were raised by Cllrs. Byrne, McClearn, Broderick, Killilea, Dr. Francis Parsons, Charity, Carroll and M Connolly

- Welcome the changes to HAP discretion levels allowing for additional flexibility of up to 35% above the prescribed maximum allowed to rent limits for qualified householder. Hope the measure does not lead to rent increases.
- Welcome the Croí Cónaithe Fund it might go towards alleviating some of the eye sores in towns and villages. Something needs to be done, the longer we leave them the worse they get. Do we have an analysis of derelict houses?
- Concerns were raised regarding grants for housing for older people and people with disabilities. The grant aid amounts need to be increased. Costs are increasing between the time of application and approval. People approved for grants find they can no longer afford to carry out the work with increasing costs.
- Request an update on the halting site in Tuam. There has been a lot of anti-social behavior. There is a lot of damage being done to properties.
- The enabling legislation for the use of CCTV is for overt CCTV use only. Very disappointed covert CCTV footage or drone patrols cannot be used to combat litter issues.
- Are there timelines for completion of the Transport Modelling Assessment of County Galway and the Local Transport Plans?
- If the Traffic Management Plans are to be informed by the Transport Modelling Assessment will this delay Traffic Management Plans?
- There is a lot of older houses in rural areas in a state of decline. Grant incentives to do up these houses would be welcome and would go in some way to alleviate current housing issues.

Members queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Hanrahan:

- The increased HAP levels are discretionary and will need be examined on a case-by-case basis following the guidelines set out by the department.
- A staffing allowance will be available for the Croí Cónaith scheme.
- There are 6 derelict units currently approved for funding under the scheme. We are in discussions with contractors and have applied to the department for further funding.
- The issue of the level of Grants Aid had been raised with the department. The grants do not include a provision for inflation. Grants are there only as an aid. They are not meant to cover the full costs of works. The department look at a Bill of Quantities each year and any changes are reflected in the grants.
- In relation to the Tuam Halting Site we have a significant land bank and we will follow the technical specification used in the Craughwell site. The Craughwell site is an excellent example of detailed design using good design principles.
- The allocated 13 new staff members for Housing have all been appointed apart from the architect. The department have yet to finalise the job specification for the Town Centre First position.

Members queries were responded to as follows by Ms. Ruane:

- In relation to CCTV, the legislation has not been changed in relation to covert CCTV. It was too difficult to legislate for from a GDPR prospective. Overt CCTV primarily placed at bottle banks can be used for prosecution purposes. Covert CCTV used at black spots, with a recurring illegal dumping issue, cannot be used for prosecution.
- The council will continue to develop alternative methods of combating illegal dumping. Resources have been ramped up, staff are out and about on the ground and coupled with the Waste Prevention Byelaws we are making an impact in this regard.

Members queries were responded to as follows by Ms. Lowe

- To build on the Galway County Transport and Planning Strategy (GCTPS) which formed part of the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028 strategy

Galway County Council recently signed a contract with Systra Ltd. to complete the following:

- Transport modelling for County Galway
- Local Transport Plans
- Galway County Walking and Cycling Strategy
- The development of a Transport Modelling Assessment for County Galway will provide analysis in terms of forecasting travel patterns and flows between origins and destinations by different modes within the county and adjoining counties. It will inform Council decisions on remedying infrastructure deficits and providing new infrastructure. It will also support the planning and delivery of new Active Travel projects.
- The smaller scale Local Transport Plans and Community Transport Studies will be completed for a number of settlements. They will examine measures and options suitable for each settlement in terms of pedestrian, cycle, public transport and road networks. Traffic Management Plans will follow on from this. The studies will inform the planning of Active Travel projects at a local level.
- An update of the Galway County Walking and Cycling Strategy, last drafted in 2013, will take its lead from ongoing NTA work on Cycling in the Country and will provide a more detailed framework to enhance both walking and cycling infrastructure across the county.
- Ideally the Traffic Management Plans will follow on from and be informed by the Local Transport Studies.

**ITEM NO.13 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE APPROVE FOR
PUBLIC CONSULTATION DRAFT GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL BEACH BYE-
LAWS 2022 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 19 (BYE-LAWS) OF THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REFORM ACT 2014.**

4016

Report dated 19th July 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

As chair of the Community and Cultural Development SPC Cllr. Herterich Quinn presented the Draft Galway County Council Beach bye-laws to the Members. She advised it was timely to review the bye-laws drafted and introduced in 1997 as:

- A number of beaches in Galway County had received Blue-Flag Status and there are a number of requirements have to be met under the international blue flag beach criteria
- Based on people's experiences during Covid where local beaches were used by the public for enjoying an outdoor summer
- To build on our Tourism Strategy to enjoy Galway beaches and to assist with activities that they will be used for and work with the public for their safe and enjoyable use

She advised Members the draft bye-laws were brought before the Community and Cultural Development SPC where a number of items were raised for inclusion by the members:

- Addition of exercise classes as a licenced activity when being sold for monetary reward on a beach
- Add in definition of Water Sports Activities
- Include prohibited act of harvesting seaweed and shellfish to complement existing statutory regulations
- The preference for Control of Dogs on Blue Flag Beaches was to exclude them between 11am – 7pm on the specific areas

She noted it was appropriate the bye-laws were put on public display during the summer months when the beaches are most in use by the public for them to provide their submissions and comments.

The following queries and points were raised by Cllr. Ó Curraoin, Mannion, Byrne, McKinstry, Kinane and King

- Concerns were raised regarding rights on harvesting seaweed and shellfish collection. In certain areas people traditionally held seaweed harvesting rights similar to turbary rights. People also collect seaweed which is brought in on a high tide or following a storm. The byelaws presented will put an end to that.
- Concerns were raised around the enforcement of byelaw in relation to horses and dogs.

- The downturn in tourism this year in certain areas could be linked to the lack of proper facilities on beaches e.g., toilets showers etc. We need to make our beaches more user friendly. We need more lifeguards. We need GPS for lifebuoys to ensure they are not taken or go missing.
- Currently there is a lack of consistency in signage around the county regarding dogs on beaches. In Connemara some beaches have signs saying dogs are allowed on a leash and in other areas the signs are not permitted.
- Regarding filmmaking the bye laws may create obstacles around the issuing of licences. Filmmakers often find locations for filming shortly before filming, sometimes the evening before. The provision of licences at very short notice may create an obstacle for filmmakers despite the council's efforts to promote and encourage the filming industry in the county.
- Clarification sought on the requirement for a license to remove seaweed for commercial use and for personal use.

Members queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Owens

- Lifebuoys are being monitored. There is an app for reporting lifebuoys taken or damaged. There is a pilot system in one of the Dublin local authorities for GPS on lifebuoys but currently it is not in use in Galway.
- Improvements have been made to facilities including accessibility at beaches. All improvement works are dependent on the resources and funding available.
- Regarding filming licences currently there is a consent system in place which TG4 apply for and avail of for filming. There is provision to extend this generally.
- The provisions regarding shellfish and seaweed were discussed at the Community and Cultural Development SPC and they requested their inclusion.
- There is provision for the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine to regulate the removal of seaweed.

Mr. Owens advised Members the bye-laws could be approved as presented or amended before they go on public display. Comh. O'Curraoin stated he would propose the bye-laws presented subject to the removal of the references to 'seaweed' and 'shellfish'.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. O 'Curraoin **SECONDED** by Cllr. King it was **AGREED** to approve for public consultation the draft Galway County Council beach bye-laws 2022 in accordance with part 19 (bye-laws) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014 subject to the removal of the references to 'shellfish' and 'seaweed'.

ITEM NO.14 TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL REPORTS ON THE ACCOUNTS OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2022, INCLUDING FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 2022.

4017

Report published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McClearn **SECONDED** by Cllr. Carroll the Financial Report on the Accounts of Galway County Council for the year 2022, including for the period ending June 2022 was **NOTED**.

ITEM NO. 15 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE. 4018

The following items of correspondence which were published on the extranet prior to the meeting were **NOTED**:

- Letter dated 27.04.22 to Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications & Transport, Eamon Ryan T.D. Resolution – The abrupt ban of sale of turf.
- Email dated 07.07.2022 from Ministers office on behalf of Eamon Ryan T.D. Response - The abrupt ban of sale of turf.
- Letter dated 27.04.22 to Taoiseach Micheál Martin T.D. Resolution – Operation of the Derrybrien Windfarm.
- Email dated 08.07.2022 from Anthony O'Grady, Private Secretary to Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Eamon Ryan T.D. Response - Operation of the Derrybrien Windfarm.
- Email dated 20.07.22 from Sean Canney T.D. to Chief Executive. Response received from Eamon Ryan T.D. Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communication-Operation of the Derrybrien Windfarm.

- Letter dated 27.05.22 to Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys T.D. Resolution – Basic Income for Artists
- Letter dated 07.07.22 from Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys T.D. - Response – Basic Income for Artists.
- Letter dated 23.06.2022 from Kerry County Council. Resolution – Long Covid Clinics.
- Letter dated 24.06.2022 from Donegal County Council. Resolution – Extension of the Tús Scheme to Ukrainian Nationals.
- Letter dated 24.06.2022 from Donegal County Council. Resolution – Extension of Culture Night.
- Letter dated 27.06.2022 from Cork County Council. Resolution – Support to Fishing Fleet.
- Letter dated 28.06.22 to Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Peter Burke T.D. Resolution – Ash die back.
- Email dated 01.07.22 from Caoimhe Barrett, on behalf of Minister of State Peter Burke, T.D. Response - Ash die back.
- Letter dated 28.06.22 to Minister of State at Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Peter Burke T.D. Resolution – section 254.
- Letter dated 28.06.22 to Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Resolution - Ash die back.
- Letter dated 28.06.22 to Mr. Derek Pender, DOS Infrastructure & Operations Department. Resolution - Speed Limit Review.
- Letter dated 28.06.22 to Ms. Eileen Ruane, DOS Environment, Climate Action, Fire Services, Human Resources and ICT and Mr. Liam Hanrahan, DOS Housing. Resolution - Domestic Sexual and Gender Based Violence Liaison Officer.
- Letter dated 28.06.22 to Mr. Michael Owens, DOS Planning & Sustainable Development & Corporate Services. Resolution - JPC Meeting.
- Letter dated 30.06.2022 from Limerick City & County Council. Resolution – Long Covid Clinics.
- Letter dated 01.07.2022 from Limerick City & County Council. Resolution – Request for emergency powers to introduce a moratorium on evictions.

- Letter dated 06.07.2022 to Mr. Paul Dunne, Local Government Management Agency. Resolution – Transfer of Veterinary Services.
- Mayors of Peace Newsflash June 2022
- Letter dated 27.05.22 to the Department of Rural and Community Development. Resolution – Clár Scheme
- Email dated 20.07.22 from Damien Griffin, on behalf of Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Rural and Community Development. Response – Clár Scheme.

ITEM NO. 16 CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

4019

No matters arising.

ITEM NO. 17 NOTICE OF MOTION

4020

Cllr. McClearn submitted the following Notice of Motion prior to the meeting.

“that Galway County Council call on the Consultants employed to progress the Galway to Dublin greenway, consider where necessary the feasibility of developing a hybrid-model.”

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McClearn **SECONDED** by Cllr. Reddington the Members **AGREED** the motion.

Cllr. McClearn said he wished to see completion of the Greenway as soon as possible but he advised that there was huge resistance to what was currently being proposed in Meelick and Stoneyisland. He suggested a hybrid model to include a cycleway should be considered which would benefit everyone including locals. Cllr. Thomas supported the motion in principal but stressed that there was no such thing as a hybrid greenway. He advised that there were very specific design guidelines for greenways.

In response Ms. Lowe advised:

“Galway County Council and the appointed consultants are considering, where necessary, and limited to pinch points, the use of a hybrid proposal in accordance with the Government Strategy for National and Regional Greenways”.

ITEM NO. 18 NOTICE OF MOTION

4021

Cllr. Donohue submitted the following Notice of Motion prior to the meeting:

"that the Chief Executive set out a progress report on the Section 85 between Galway County Council and Westmeath County Council for the Galway to Dublin Greenway within the Administrative Area of Galway County Council."

The following reply issued:

"Galway County Council at a Council meeting on the 23rd June 2014 resolved pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 that it would enter into an agreement with Westmeath County Council to authorise it to perform the powers, duties and functions relating to the carrying out of the Greenway. Similarly, Westmeath County Council at a Council meeting on the 28th July 2014 resolved pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 that it would enter into an agreement with Galway County Council agreeing to perform the powers duties and functions of Galway County Council relating to the carrying out of the Greenway. The formal Section 85 agreement was made on 26th August 2014 and was sealed and witnessed by the Cathaoirleach of both Councils.

The Section 85 agreement is still in place and the project is advancing through Transport Infrastructure Irelands Project Management Guidelines in compliance with the recently published Code of Best Practice for The Delivery of National and Regional Greenways."

Cllr. Donohue noted she had requested a progress report on the Section 85 between Galway County Council and Westmeath County Council for the Galway to Dublin Greenway. She enquired if the project had been carbon costed and asked how many tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent or CO₂e had been set out.

The Chief Executive confirmed Westmeath County Council had adhered to the agreement with Galway County Council pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001. He advised the project will require An Bord Pleanála approval. He noted a full suite of supporting documentation dealing with environmental considerations will form part of the assessment.

ITEM NO.19 VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS

4022

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:

- Mary McInerney, Kiltulla, Athenry, Co. Galway
- Rita Brett, Killarive, Kiltulla, Athenry, Co. Galway
- Michael Hansberry, Dereen, Gort, Co. Galway
- Gerard Cox, Knockaravoddy, Furbo, Co. Galway
- Willie Cummins, Derrydonnell, Athenry, Co. Galway
- Margaret Cox, Father Griffin Road, Galway City
- Pat Donnellan, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Oliver Hernon, 4 New Village, Barna, Co. Galway
- Philomena Cox, Tooreeny, Moycullen, Co. Galway
- Many Trayers, Millstream Park, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Margaret McHugh, Ballymote Road, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Jim Warde, St. Jarlaths Court, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Eugene Higgins, Claretuam, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Nellie Murphy, Waterview, Turloughmore, Co. Galway
- Michael John O Dea, Cregmore, Claregalway, Co. Galway

Cllr. Finnerty was joined by Members in extending condolences to Michael Hansberry and the Hansberry family following the recent death of John Hansberry, Kilbeacanty a former employee of Galway County Council.

Cllr. Mannion was joined by Members in extending congratulations to the Galway Senior Football team following their performance against Kerry in the All-Ireland Football Championship. Congratulations was also extended to the Galway Senior Camogie Team following their performance against Kilkenny in the semi-finals of the All-Ireland Camogie Championship.

Chriochnaigh an Cruinniú Ansin.

Submitted, Signed and Approved

Cathaoirleach:

Michael Moher

Date:

26/07/2022