

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**  
**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Held at ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL**  
**Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 10.15 am**

<b>CATHAOIRLEACH:</b>	Cllr. Michael 'Moegie' Maher Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway Cllr. Eileen Mannion, Leas-Chathaoirleach of the County of Galway.
<b>I LATHAIR FREISIN: Baill:</b>	Comh./Cllr. T Broderick, J. Byrne, I. Canning, L. Carroll, J. Charity, D. Collins, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, G. Cronnelly, D. Ó Cualáin, J. Cuddy, S. Curley, T. Ó Curraoin, A. Dolan, G. Donohue, G. Finnerty, D. Geraghty, S. Herterich Quinn, M. Hoade, D. Kelly, C. Keaveney, P. Keaveney, D. Killilea, M. Kinane, G. King, P. Mac an Iomaire, J. McClearn, A. McKinstry, P. Murphy, E. Francis Parsons, A. Reddington, P. Roche, J. Sheridan, N. Thomas, S. Walsh and T. Welby.
<b>Oifigh:</b>	Mr. J. Cullen, Chief Executive, Mr. L. Hanrahan, Director of Services, Mr. M. Owens, Director of Services, Mr D. Pender, Director of Services, Ms Eileen Ruane, Director of Services, Ms. Á. Fenton, Head of Finance, Ms. J. Brann, Meetings Administrator, Ms L Sharkey, Administrative Officer, Ms L Keady, Administrative Officer, Ms. B. Ryan, Staff Officer, Mr. M. Ó Donnchadha, Oifigeach Gaeilge, Ms. E. Hoffman, Clerical Officer. Mr P. Scannell, Clerical Officer

Following an adjournment of the Budget Meeting the November Plenary Meeting commenced at 10:15 am. The Leas Cathoirleach Cllr. Mannion took the chair as the Cathoirleach had to leave the meeting.

**Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.**

**ITEM NO.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS**

**4056**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. C. Keaveney **SECONDED** by Cllr. Killilea the minutes of Monthly Plenary Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were **AGREED**.

**ITEM NO.2 CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** **4057**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Byrne **SECONDED** by Cllr. McClearn the minutes of Housing SPC held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 were **AGREED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McKinstry **SECONDED** by Cllr. King the minutes of Corporate Policy Group held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were **AGREED**.

**ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF LAND AT BALLYMORE, CRAUGHWELL, CO. GALWAY – 0.18 ACRES.** **4058**

*Statutory Notice issued in accordance with Section 183(1)(b) and report dated 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Murphy **SECONDED** by Cllr. Byrne it was **AGREED** to dispose of 0.18 acres of lands at Ballymore, Craughwell, Co. Galway, in accordance with the terms of the Statutory Notice dated the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022.

**ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF LAND AT KNOCKROE, ATTYMON, ATHENRY, CO. GALWAY – 0.27 ACRES** **4059**

*Statutory Notice issued in accordance with Section 183(1)(b) and report dated 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. M. Connolly **SECONDED** by Cllr. Byrne it was **AGREED** to dispose of 0.27 acres of lands at Knockroe, Attymon, Athenry, Co. Galway, in accordance with the terms of the Statutory Notice dated the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF LAND AT CAHERWEELDER, KILCOLGAN, CO. GALWAY – 0.563 HECTARES** 4060

*Statutory Notice issued in accordance with Section 183(1)(b) and report dated 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Byrne **SECONDED** by Cllr. Kinane it was **AGREED** to dispose of 0.563hectares of lands at Caherweelder, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway, in accordance with the terms of the Statutory Notice dated the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**ITEM NO.6 APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF ÚDARÁS NA GAELTACHTA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 16(2)(A)(IV) GAELTACHT ACT 2012.** 4061

*Report dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 22 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Reddington **SECONDED** by Cllr. Welby it was **AGREED** to nominate Cllr. Mac Iomaire for appointment to the Board Of Údarás Na Gaeltachta in accordance with section 16(2)(a)(iv) Gaeltacht Act 2012.

**ITEM NO. 7. TO CONSIDER A DATE FOR THE DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING OF PLENARY COUNCIL.** 4062

It was **AGREED** to hold the December Monthly Meeting of Plenary Council on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 11:00am.

**ITEM NO. 8 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).** 4063

*Report dated the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. King **SECONDED** by Cllr. Byrne it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. Dr. Francis Parsons, Welby, Hoade, King and Roche to attend AILG Module 5 'Disability & Inclusion' at The Radisson Hotel Sligo on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. King **SECONDED** by Cllr. Byrne it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllr. Curley to attend AILG Module 5 'Disability & Inclusion' at Brehon Hotel, Killarney (alternative location) on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Hoade **SECONDED** by Cllr. Welby it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. Hoade, McClearn, Welby, C. Keaveney, Kinane, Curley and Roche to attend LAMA 'Autumn Training' at Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan on 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Welby **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hoade it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. McClearn, Curley, King, O 'Curraoin, O'Cualáin and Hoade to attend AILG Module 6 'What Councillors Need to Know' at the Newgrange Hotel, Navan on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Welby **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hoade it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllr. Welby to attend AILG Module 6 'What Councillors Need to Know' at The Tower Hotel, Waterford (alternative location) on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

**ITEM NO. 9 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).** 4064

*Report dated the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Sheridan **SECONDED** by Cllr. Killilea it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. Sheridan and Thomas to attend AEE 'Europe Energy Conference & Expo 2022' at RDS Simmonscourt, Dublin on 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022. (Retrospective Approval)

**ITEM NO. 10 TO CONSIDER THE MANAGEMENT REPORT – NOVEMBER 2022 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 136(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED).** 4065

*Report dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.*

The Management Report – November 2022 in accordance with section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 (As Amended) was **NOTED**.

Members discussed the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) and raised a number of concerns. Mr. Owens responded to Members queries and clarified issues raised including:

- The Residential Zoned Land Tax is provided for under the Finance Act 2021. All residential zoned lands including lands with the potential for an element of residential development (based on the relevant zoning matrix) are within the scope of the RZLT if the lands meet the criteria as detailed in the Finance Act. The differentiation in relation to R1 and R2 zoned lands in the County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 does not apply for the purpose of the RZLT. It was noted that while existing residential development was mapped it was excluded from the scope of the RZLT.
- It is open to landowners to submit their request to have lands de-zoned by the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The planning authority awaits further guidance from the Minister on how those requests will be dealt with. This guidance is not expected before the deadline for submissions on 1<sup>st</sup> January. Regarding the closing date for submissions there is no discretion or provision in the act to extend the closing date of the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.
- The notification process to landowners is set out in the Finance Act in terms of newspaper notices and publishing maps etc. Notices have been published in local and national papers and maps have been made available in accordance with the provisions of the Finance Act.
- There is no provision in the Finance Act to allow the local authority to notify individual landowners. The local authority needs to be careful not to act outside the requirements of the Act. This may leave the local authority open to litigation in the event that the wrong person was notified or if a person was not notified.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Killilea **SECONDED** by Cllr. Donohue Members **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to bring forward item No. 12 on the Agenda to facilitate members of the public in attendance waiting to hear the discussion.

**ITEM NO.12 NOTICE OF MOTION**

**4066**

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

"We the undersigned, have, over recent months attended a number of Community Meetings relating to the section of proposed Galway to Athlone Greenway between Kinvara and Kilcolgan.

It is now quite evident, which is confirmed in a detailed survey of the residents of Mulroog and Pollough (issued to Project Team) that 96.5% of residents do not support the construction of the Greenway through their townlands, and one key concern is the proximity of the Greenway to homes.

It is our view and that of 93% of respondents of above survey that the best alternative route is to adapt, upgrade, as required the existing N67 cycleway / walkway which would connect the villages of Kinvara and Ballinderreen.

Accordingly, we now propose that this alternative be considered as the only option to ensure we develop a win win situation between the objectives of the local community and the desire to deliver a Greenway between Galway and Athlone."

**The following reply issued:**

*"The proposed Galway to Athlone Castle National Cycleway project will see the creation of a segregated walking and cycling route linking Ballyloughane Beach in Galway City to Athlone Castle, where it will connect to the existing Athlone to Dublin Cycleway.*

*To identify the emerging preferred route, a series of project objectives were set, including the '5S' criteria set out in the Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways, published by the Government of Ireland in 2018. The '5S' criteria outline that greenway's should be Scenic, Sustainable, Strategic, Segregated, and with lots to See and do.*

*A meeting took place, at the request of the Loughrea Municipal District Councillors, on 17th October last in the Project Office in Ballinasloe. It was decided at that meeting by all of the Loughrea Municipal District Councillors that the Project Team would investigate a route east of the N67 between Kinvara and Kilcolgan. That work is*

ongoing. The Project Team is to report back on progress to all of the Loughrea Municipal District Councillors in December.

Notwithstanding the commitment given to all of the Loughrea Municipal District Councillors at the meeting of the 17th, the Project Team is investigating several routes between Kinvara and Ballinderreen one of which is along the existing N67 infrastructure."

Members discussed the motion. Various concerns were raised including potential privacy and security issues of homeowners and landowners on the cycleway and severance issues. Members stressed local community agreement with the chosen route was vital, the cycleway should be of benefit to the community and existing infrastructure should be utilised. Concerns were also raised that the motion may restrict the design team in examining other potential routes.

Mr. Pender noted his concern in respect of considering one particular route as "*the only option*". He advised Members that the relevant Planning and Environmental legislation was clear - one option only cannot be assessed. There is a legal requirement to examine all options.

The Chief Executive advised Members that the planning of any infrastructure project must be undertaken in compliance with the provisions of the local government Planning and Development Acts, Environmental Regulations and European Directives. He explained that in a situation where a motion passed by the Council runs in conflict with the governing legislation, then the primary governing legislation takes precedence and must be complied with. In the current case, the planning process requires that all options be considered rather than limiting consideration to one option only as proposed in the motion.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Byrne **SECONDED** by Cllr. Kinane Members **AGREED** the Motion was to be communicated to the consultants.

**ITEM NO. 11 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE. 4067**

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

- Letter dated 20.10.22 from Donegal County Council. Resolution –Turf Cutting Policy

- Letter dated 24.10.22 from Cork County Council. Resolution – EPA to put in place a full suite of end of waste criteria to support the circular economy and climate action.
- Letter dated 26.10.22 from Offaly County Council. Resolution – Low pay and poor working conditions faced by emergency medical technicians.
- Letter dated 28.10.22 to National Transport Authority. Resolution – Presentation regarding Park and Ride facilities.
- Letter dated 09.11.22 from Monaghan County Council. Resolution – To defer the introduction of a Concrete/Block Levy.
- Letter dated 11.11.22 from Sligo County Council. Resolution – Review criteria to qualify for Social Employment Scheme.
- Letter dated 11.11.22 from Sligo County Council. Resolution – To ensure that all new buildings have a changing place facility for the disabled.
- Letter dated 11.11.22 from Sligo County Council. Resolution – Review numbers of Doctors and Nurses being trained annually and implement a workforce strategy for retention.
- Mayors of Peace News Flash October 2022
- Mayors of Peace Briefing Paper 40

**ITEM NO.13 NOTICE OF MOTION**

**4068**

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

“In view of the important strategic role SPCs play in assisting in the formation, development and review of Galway County Council policies

I, Cllr Martina Kinane propose, at the earliest opportunity, that a review be undertaken by the Executive of Galway County Council, of the range of sectoral interests that presently make up the framework of the Galway County Council 6 SPCs, to ensure that the views, opinions and local knowledge of the sectors, as represented by the national pillar of key stakeholders, the PPN and local interested groups /organisations are considered.”

**The following reply issued:**

*“I have conducted a review of the current membership of the six Strategic Policy Committees. I am satisfied that the assignment of sectoral representatives across*

each of the SPC's is as per the Guidelines as laid down by the Department for the establishment and operation of SPC's and in accordance with the Strategic Policy Committee Scheme as adopted by the Members on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. I am attaching both documents for your attention and information.

There is currently one nominee being sought for the current Development and Construction Sector vacancy on the Community and Cultural SPC.

**Assignment of Sectoral Representatives – Galway Co. Council SPC's**

<b>SPC</b>	<b>Sectoral Representative</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Current sectoral representation</b>
1. Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Voluntary (1)</li> <li>Development/Construction (1)</li> <li>Business/Commercial (1)</li> <li>Social Inclusion (1)</li> </ul>	4	All sectors adequately represented
2. Economic Development & Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Voluntary (1)</li> <li>Development/Construction (1)</li> <li>Business/Commercial (1)</li> <li>Trade union (1)</li> </ul>	4	All sectors adequately represented
3. Planning, Environment, Agriculture & Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Voluntary (1)</li> <li>Development/Construction (1)</li> <li>Environment/Conservation (1)</li> <li>Agricultural/Farming (1)</li> </ul>	4	All sectors adequately represented
4. Transportation & Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Voluntary (1)</li> <li>Agricultural/Farming (1)</li> <li>Environment/Conservation (1)</li> <li>Business/Commercial (1)</li> </ul>	4	All sectors adequately represented
5. Community & Cultural Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Voluntary (1)</li> <li>Business/Commercial (1)</li> <li>Development/Construction (1)</li> <li>Social Inclusion (1)</li> </ul>	4	All sectors adequately represented. Nominee being sought for the current vacancy of the Development Construction sector.
6. Climate Change & Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Voluntary (1)</li> <li>Business/Commercial (1)</li> <li>Environment/Conservation (1)</li> <li>Agriculture/Farming (1)</li> </ul>	4	All sectors adequately represented

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**ITEM NO.14 NOTICE OF MOTION**

**4069**

Cllr. Dr. Francis Parsons submitted the following Notice of Motion prior to the meeting:

"Galway County Council has agreed to participate and "Light up Orange" in solidarity with UN Global 16 Days of Activism Campaign which is an international campaign to challenge violence against women and girls. The campaign runs every year from 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day. Domestic Sexual and Gender Based Violence is an escalating issue in our county and country.

At this time I propose that Galway County Council provide an update on

- the agreed motion to seek the addition of a Domestic Violence Liaison Officer to the Housing Section of the council put forward earlier this year
- the progression of a Domestic Violence Refuge in conjunction with Safe Ireland
- a report on the number of safe houses and refuge places currently available in the county and any plans in progress for provision of same"

**The following reply issued:**

*"The original motion was discussed at the March 2022 Council meeting. Since then the Minister for Justice, Helen McEntee has published the Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.*

*In the action plan published alongside the Strategy it has been agreed to:*

*2.3.2 Develop, resource, and implement an agreed Strategic Accommodation Solutions Development Plan to implement the recommendations of the Review of Emergency Accommodation for victims/ survivors of DSGBV. We will double refuge accommodation over the lifetime of the Strategy. We will also apply the learning arising from Covid 19 Department of Justice/ statutory DSGBV agency, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, supported by Tusla, commissioned services, local authorities and specialist and community-based support organisations.*

*We will:*

- *Deliver 24 refuge places in Wexford, Dundalk and Navan in 2023 and 2024. • Publish guidance on a design approach for future refuge development by Q1 2023.*
- *Deliver project management and capacity building supports to 12 priority locations in 2022 and 2023. • Deliver 14 additional safe homes by Q4 2022 with further expansion in 2023*

*COPE as the Galway local Domestic Violence Agency advised that Ballinasloe is in one of the 12 locations to be examined and prioritised.*

*COPE are the provider of the Modh Eile House Service in Galway City, the only refuge in the region. This service offers 24-hour help and support to women and children with regular outreach to the County and support structures.*

*There is no refuge located within the Galway County Council area.*

*Galway County Council is currently working on a proposal to the Department for a Hostel in the County that can be used to support clients who find themselves homeless due to a range of issues including Domestic and other forms of violence. A submission will be made to the Department in 2023 for the funding of this centre – capital and revenue spending including staffing.”*

**ITEM NO.15 NOTICE OF MOTION**

**4070**

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

*“that we cease any further progress with the draft beach bylaws 2022 and that we restart a new set of draft bylaws which will include beach zoning maps where appropriate. And also, consultation will take place with any relevant stakeholders when compiling these new draft bylaws.”*

**The following reply issued:**

*“The Draft Beach Bye-Laws 2022 were drafted to update the Beach Bye-Laws 1997 in the context of the requirements of the Blue Flag Beach Criteria and Explanatory*

Notes 2022 and in response to issues raised by the Members arising from their consideration of the Summer Ready Plans 2021 and 2022.

*The Draft Beach Bye-Laws were informed by the above and by a review of existing Beach By-Laws in place in other counties, including adjoining counties and counties located along the Wild Atlantic Way.*

*The Draft Beach Bye-Laws were considered at a special meeting of the Community and Culture SPC on the 13th July 2022. A briefing and presentation on the Draft Beach Bye-Laws, including an outline of the amendments proposed by the SPC, was given to the Connemara MD on the 18th July 2022.*

*The Draft Beach Bye-Laws 2022 incorporating the amendments as proposed by the SPC were presented to the Plenary Meeting held on the 25th July 2022. A number of issues were raised by the Members and responses provided resulting in further amendments to the Draft Beach Bye-Laws. The Member unanimously 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'.*

*Notices were published in the Connacht Tribune, City Tribune and Galway Advertiser on weekend 23rd September for the Draft Bye-Laws to be available for public consultation from 22nd September to 11th November. Additional notifications were published on 3rd November in local papers. An extension of the consultation period was granted on the 11th November 2022 to facilitate submissions until the 25th November 2022 at 4pm. Notification of the consultation period including the extension was also communicated via social media channels.*

*As of Friday, 25th November 2022 (AM) a total of 1,017 submissions have been received together with notification of 2 petitions. A petition relating to water sports with 5,444 signatures and a petition relating to equines with 924 signatures.*

*Following the closing of the 9 week public consultation period, a report will be prepared on the submissions received (including petitions) for consideration in the first instance by the Community and Culture SPC and by both the Connemara and Loughrea Municipal Districts. Arising from same, a report including any recommendations*

*arising from the consideration of the public submissions, will be prepared for consideration and decision by the Plenary Council. Plenary Council shall consider the submissions and may then make the bye-law either in accordance with the draft or subject to such changes as the local authority may, at its discretion, determine or not make the bye-laws.*

*The decision to proceed with the public consultation on the Draft Beach Bye-Laws was made on the 25th July 2022 and accordingly the Notice of Motion to cease any further progress with the draft beach bylaws 2022 and to restart a new set of draft bylaws is within six months of the date of the adoption of the resolution on the 25th July 2022."*

**ITEM NO.16 CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

**4071**

Following a meeting earlier in the day with Mr. Simon Harris TD, Minister of Further and Higher Education, Innovation and Science, the Cathoirleach informed Members of the announcement of a capital investment of €100m in education in Galway including, €20m in GRETB and €80m Galway ATU. The Cathoirleach welcomed the significant investment and noted it would benefit both Galway and the West.

The following Motions were submitted:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Hoade **SECONDED** by Cllr. C. Keaveney the Members **AGREED** to:

"examine all contracts to see that we have no further five day contracts and to address this immediately."

Cllr. Hoade clarified she was referring to contracts in areas which impact the general public and where weekend cover may be required to provide a timely response in emergency situations.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Donohue **SECONDED** by Cllr. Cronnelly the Members **AGREED** to:

The "postponement of announcement date of the preferred route until each houseowner, and landowner has been met in person by RPS/GCC Representatives

to discuss and agree best route solution for each of the areas concerned on proposed greenway from Athlone to Galway."

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Thomas **SECONDED** by Cllr. Kinane the Members **AGREED**:

"That Galway County Council improve the sound system in the chamber."

The following motion was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Cuddy **SECONDED** by Cllr. Broderick:

"That people who have land zoned should be written to by the Council to outline the implications of the land tax on zoned land."

Mr. Owens advised Members that arrangements had been made to republish public notices regarding the Residential Zoned Land Tax. He advised that all information previously circulated to Members (ministerial guidelines, relevant timelines and FAQ) were available on the Council's website.

Following a discussion, the motion was reworded. On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Cuddy **SECONDED** by Cllr. Broderick Members **AGREED**:

"That the Council should write to the Department of Finance who have raised the possibility of the land tax on zoned residential lands and the Revenue Commissioners who would be administering this tax to seek clarity with what they are proposing, the reasoning behind this and what happens to land that is zoned as Residential Phase 2 where planning will not be granted until all the Phase 1 lands are developed."

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Mannion **SECONDED** by Cllr. Dr. Francis Parsons the Members **AGREED**:

"that we write to the Minister to extend the deadlines to apply to have land de-zoned, from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023."

**ITEM NO.17 VOTES OF SYMPATHY / CONGRATULATIONS**

**4072**

The Cathoirleach was joined by Members in extending sympathies to the Head of Finance, Ms Áine Fenton following the recent death of her mother Baibín Fenton RIP. The Cathoirleach extended condolences to the family of Bernie Egan RIP, a member of staff in the Portumna area office. Condolences were also extended to the Dooley and Mitchell families following the recent death of Sandra Mitchell RIP, a former employee of Galway County Council.

On behalf of the staff, the Chief Executive expressed his sincere sympathy to the husband and family of Bernie Egan RIP and to the Dooley and Mitchell families. He extended condolences to Ms Áine Fenton and acknowledged the huge contribution Ms. Fenton had made in the preparation of the recent draft Budget.

**A resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:**

- Michelle Ward, 83 Hymany Park, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- John Larkin, Springrove, Killimor, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Kathy Tannian, Killina, Kinvara, Co. Galway
- Cyprian Fahey, Cloonmally, Kilbeacanty, Gort, Co. Galway
- Donal Shaughnessy, Nogra, Kinvara, Co. Galway
- Elva Deegan, Kinvara, Co. Galway
- Mary Doyle Mahon, Moylough More, Moylough, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Mary Owens, Castlegar, Mountbellew, Co. Galway
- Seán Forde, Liscaninane, Claregalway, Co. Galway
- Tomas O Brien, Grange, Athenry, Co. Galway
- Christina Whelan, Island, Turloughmore, Co. Galway
- Padraig Forde, Woodlands Estate, Lackagh, Turloughmore, Co. Galway
- Siobhan O Shaughnessy, Mirah, Turloughmore, Co. Galway
- Sean McDermott, Lackaghbeg, Turloughmore, Co. Galway
- Donie Duggan, Cloughaun, Claregalway, Co. Galway
- Kevin Keane, Claregalway, Co. Galway
- Rita Grealish, Carnmore, Oranmore, Co. Galway
- Louise Mannion, The Pottery, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Johnny Courtney, Kilconly, Tuam, Co. Galway

- Patricia Silke, Caherhugh, Belclare, Tuam, Galway
- Frank Acton and Family, Tullyvoheen, Clifden, Co. Galway
- Margaret Davoren, Freeport, Barna, Co. Galway
- Gabrielle King, Cloughanover, Headford, Co. Galway
- Sally Joyce, Corbally, Cummer, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Mary Mahon, Lough Cultra, Gort, Co. Galway
- Elizabeth Kilmartain, Aggard, Craughwell, Co. Galway
- Karol Mitchell, Liscune, Ballymacward, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Eamonn Gallagher, Kilbeacanty, Gort, Co. Galway
- Edward Linnane, Tullira, Ardrahan, Co. Galway
- Terence Cosgrove, Kilbannon, Tuam, Co. Galway
- Áine Fenton, Tishmeáin, Carraroe, Co. Galway
- Bishop Michael Duignan, Bishop Emeritus of Galway and Kilmacduagh and Apostolic Administrator Emeritus of Kilfenora, Diocesan Office, The Cathedral, Gaol Road, Galway.

The Cathoirleach extended his congratulations to Cllr. Collins on his recent appointment to the position of Chair of the Nort-Western Regional Authority.

The Cathoirleach extended congratulations to the Galway County Council staff involved in two projects shortlisted in the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022:

- Galway Community Archaeology Project
- Severe Weather Event Management System

Cllr. D. Connolly was joined by Members extending congratulations to the new World Boxing Champion - Ms. Cliona D'Arcy, Gort. Ms. D'Arcy won the heavyweight gold medal at the recent World Youth Championships.

**Chriochnaigh an Cruinniú Ansin.**

**Submitted, Signed and Approved**

Cathaoirleach:

Michael McHer

Date:

19/12/2022

