

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**  
**MINUTES OF DEFERRED REMOTE COUNCIL MEETING OF**  
**GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 2.00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. Peter Keaveney  
Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

**Baill:** 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, T. Ó Curraoin,  
Albert Dolan, G. Donohue, G. Finnerty; D. Geraghty, S.  
Herterich Quinn, M. Hoade, D. Kelly, D. Killilea, M.  
Kinane, G. King, P. Mac an Iomaire, M. Maher, E. Mannion,  
J. McClearn, K. McHugh Farag, A. McKinstry, P.J.  
Murphy, Dr. E. Francis Parsons, A. Reddington, P.  
Roche, J. Sheridan, N. Thomas, S. Walsh and T. Welby.

**Oifigh:** Mr. J. Cullen, Chief Executive, Ms. E. Ruane, Director  
of Services, Mr. L. Hanrahan, Director of Services, Mr.  
D. Pender, Director of Services, Mr. M. Owens, Director  
of Services, Ms. J. Brann, Meetings Administrator, Ms.  
V. Loughnane, Senior Planner, Mr. B. Dunne, A/Senior  
Executive Planner, Mr. B. Corcoran, Executive  
Planner, Ms. A. O Moore, Assistant Planner, Mr. L.  
Ward, Graduate Planner, Ms. A. Power, Senior Staff  
Officer, Ms. C. Walsh, Assistant Staff Officer and Mr. S.  
Keady, Clerical Officer

**Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.**

Mr. Owens advised that the final stage of the County Development Plan process had been reached, and there were a small number of procedural issues to be concluded at today's proceedings.

Cllr. Byrne advised that he had raised a matter at Friday's Meeting regarding an anomaly of a mapping error in Oranmore and requested that it be dealt with now.

Ms. Loughnane explained that in the 2012/2022 LAP for Oranmore, land was zoned open space/recreation & amenity and there was a slight mapping error made during

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the process. Effectively with respect to that site in question, it should have Town Centre zoning on it. Ms. Loughnane gave an undertaking that if any planning application was to be submitted for the site in question, then any mapping discrepancy would be raised so that the applicant would not be disadvantaged by it. Cllr. Byrne stated that there needed to be certainty regarding it, so that he could assure the concerned landowner. He stated that he wished for the entire part of the land be zoned Town Centre, and for the map to be amended accordingly. Ms. Loughnane stated that during the course of any new application on that identified site, the Forward Planning Unit would raise the issue of mapping discrepancy with DM Colleagues or in Pre-Planning Meetings and the applicant would not be disadvantaged as a result of this error.

Cllr. M. Connolly stated that he was aware of this discrepancy and accepted everything that Forward Planning had given as an undertaking on the matter. He asked that this undertaking be recorded in the Minutes so that it can be there as a record for pre-planning meeting. Ms. Loughnane advised that this will be noted in the Minutes as requested.

An Cathoirleach advised that Cllr. Donoghue wished to address the Meeting in relation to Derrybrien Windfarm.

Cllr. Donoghue wished to speak in relation to a proposed Special Local Objective (SLO) for Derrybrien Windfarm which she had raised at Friday's Meeting, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member. She advised that she had visited the site recently and said local broadband, Vodafone coverage and Emergency Radio Services are powered by some of these turbines. She stated that if decommissioned, a diesel generator would have to be used to run these services which would be prone to breakdowns, theft, etc. She advised that Vodafone's coverage in the area would be significantly negatively affected by the decommissioning. She stated that during the initial consultation 17 years ago, there was no slippage identified during the operation stage and the Environment has recovered since the Landslide had initially happened. She stated that the powering of 55,000 houses will be affected by the decommissioning of these turbines. She urged the Members to make this happen and retain Derrybrien Windfarm for County Galway and include it as an SLO in CDP.

Cllr Byrne stated that while he agreed with sentiments expressed by Cllr. Donoghue that such an action may pose a real risk to the CDP. He referred to motion passed at the last Plenary Meeting calling on the Government to introduce emergency legislation to facilitate Derrybrien Windfarm to continue operating and hoped this motion achieves the objective of what Cllr. Donoghue was trying to achieve.

Cllrs. McKinstry and Cuddy supported the spirit of the motion but also acknowledged the legal challenges with such a proposal.

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Cllr. Geraghty stated he fully supported the Motion. He stated that there was a power generating source that can provide power for 55,000 houses that was being closed and, he urged that the Members must do all they can to try and keep it open.

Cllr. Maher stated that he was not in agreement with the proposal. He stated it was raised at Plenary Meetings and advice given was that it was a legislative issue and was beyond the Member's remit to do anything.

Cllr. Sheridan saluted Cllr. Donoghue in her efforts to get this important facility reopened. He lamented what he described as a terrible waste of infrastructure and requested that it be put back in place for their communities. He urged the Members to not get this wrong and to do the right thing here.

Cllr. Donoghue stated that there was a 20km roadway on way up to site which could be used as a cycleway for people and sought clarity from Forward Planning Team if SLO could be facilitated within the CDP.

In response, Ms. Loughnane advised that that it could not be facilitated within the Plan. She advised that this was a decision made by ABP on the application made by ESB with respect to Substitute Consent. ABP's decision was made on 04/02/2022 not to grant substitute consent because of the significant effects from the land and peat slide events in recent years. She explained that they cannot propose to include something in CDP without public consultation as it would prejudice the process. Secondly, she advised that if this was raised at Material Alteration stage, it would not get through SEA or AA screening process, as confirmed by Environmental Consultants. She reiterated that this was ABP's decision, and any change would require legislative change. She concluded by stating that it was completely beyond the remit of GCC to do anything about this decision.

Cllr. Donoghue stated that this was an unprecedented matter and requested a vote be taken on it. She advised that if vote was not carried, she would be submitting a Variation No. 1 to the County Development Plan when adopted.

Cathaoirleach P. Keaveney stated that while he agreed and supported what Cllr. Donoghue was saying, there was nothing that could be done in relation to it within CDP.

Cllr. D. Connolly concurred with comments and stated it was not within the remit of the Plan to discuss same. He referred to a previous policy that was introduced at the time where a local community dividend was paid to local people who were prevented from harvesting their peat and were discommoded. He sought clarity that if the turbines were to be retained, would a similar type dividend be provided for.

Cllr. M. Connolly stated that if it was not part of the Development Plan, it was pointless spending more time discussing something that was not possible.

Cllr. Finnerty stated they were powerless here and it would have to be dealt with at Government level.

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Cllr. Broderick stated that he appreciated the spirit of the motion but stated that it was far too important an issue to be used as a “political football” which would be shoehorned into the CDP and urged caution on putting this to a vote.

Cllr. McHugh Farag proposed that a delegation consisting of staff and Members seek a meeting with the Minister to discuss this matter and that open communication was required between all levels.

Cllr. Walsh disagreed with Cllr. Broderick’s comments and urged Members to make a “political football” of this issue. He stated that a vote on the issue would be a valuable tool with which the Executive could use to put pressure on TD’s to do something here and to show the rest of the country the seriousness of the issue to County Galway.

Mr. Cullen, CE addressed the Meeting and advised that the Council has done the only thing it could have possibly done insofar as moving the issue forward at the last Plenary Meeting. As such, he stated the Council had acted fully within its powers, as it should do. He underlined that the issue simply cannot be included in the CDP. He reiterated that as Ms. Loughnane had explained earlier, what was being proposed was not on public display, not in Material Alterations and not subject to assessment. He stated he would be disappointed were the issue to be put to a vote in this meeting as it would leave the entire CDP vulnerable to challenge. He underlined that there would be a definite risk involved were it to go to a vote, and that this risk was needless. He stated that he had taken legal advice on the matter, as he must do, and that said advice was very strong and clear on the matter that there would be no legal provision of inserting such an objective in the CDP.

In response, Cllr. Donoghue stated that the reason it did not go on public display was that the issue developed very quickly and in a short space of time but understood what CE was saying and appreciated the Members comments. She stated that should it go to a vote, and vote was rejected, then at least the message would go out from GCC as a Council and vote would be on record. She reiterated that she would be submitting a Variation No. 1 to the Development Plan on the issue.

Cllr. Welby stated that the Plenary Meeting was the only forum for discussion of this issue. He implored his colleagues not to risk the entire CDP and to risk breaking the law because of peer pressure as it was simply too late to do anything about it in this meeting.

An Comh O Curraoin stated that sometimes Members may unintentionally do things which they should not, but that in this instance, he suggested that the Members must band together to stop what is occurring in Derrybrien whether it is legal or non-legal.

Cllr. Byrne queried which was more powerful and the best way to achieve something was it by way of a motion through Plenary Meeting or an objective in our CDP which as he understood, if passed meant there would be no CDP. As such he stated that he supported the Executive’s position given the statement made by Mr. Cullen. He stated that he could not support the motion and would not be putting the CDP in jeopardy.

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Cllr. Mannion stated that they all supported the arguments put forward by Cllr. Donoghue, but as Councillors they must respect and adhere to the advice provided to them by CE, and that there were other avenues with which to explore the issue.

Cllr. Sheridan stated that the stakes were too high regarding this issue, and that sitting on the fence regarding it was tantamount to allowing and abating the mistake made on the part of ABP. He stated this was about making a negative into a positive in County Galway in this instance.

Cllr. Roche stated that he found this whole conversation bizarre and that the facts were as relayed to them by Executive. He concluded his statement by reiterating that this was not the platform to discuss this issue, and that the concern of the Members should be ensuring that the CDP was enacted. He requested Cllr. Donoghue withdraw her motion in favour of doing something more positive and meaningful.

Cllr. Carroll stated that the Members must abide by the process of CDP and advised his colleagues to do as Cllr. Byrne had done and raise it at Plenary level. He stated that the advice of the CE and Planners must be adhered to.

Cllr. Hoade stated that she too would have a concern after listening to comments of CE that this may have serious consequences on CDP.

Cllr. P. Keaveney stated that the motion as presented by Cllr. Donoghue could not be proceeded with after consideration of CE's comments.

Cllr. Donoghue thanked the Cathaoirleach for the time afforded to her on this very important issue. She advised that she would be putting in a Variation to the new County Development Plan and enquired as to whether a footnote could be included in the CDP advising that the matter was discussed at the Meeting. In response, Ms. Loughnane advised that the debate would be recorded in the Minutes but advised that it cannot be put in as a footnote in the CDP.

Cllr. D. Connolly again queried if a community dividend would be paid to the community in Derrybrien. In response, Ms. Loughnane advised that in some instances community dividends are paid for a development with a community gain. However, in this instance, there was no mechanism for this to be done as the planning permission was now refused by ABP.

**It was agreed to move on to the consideration of CDP.**

**Item No. 1: To consider the Chief Executive's Report on the Submissions received on Material Alterations to the Draft Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028 under Part 11, Section 12(5) and (6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).**

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Ms. Loughnane advised that the Members had also been sent a list of Material Alterations that were not included in CE Report as there were no submissions made on them. She advised that as per legislative requirements, a proposer and seconder with respect to each one is required so that they will be reflected in the Plan.

Cllr. Byrne stated that based on the presentation from Ms. Loughnane, proposed that the Members would take them together in one block. This was agreed by the Members.

<b>Part 1-Volume 1 Written Statement</b>	
<b>Chapter 2 Core Strategy, Settlement Strategy and Housing Strategy</b>	
<b>Material Alteration Number</b>	<b>Topic</b>
2.1	Population Scenarios
2.2	Section 2.3.7 Average Household Size
2.3	Section 2.3.8 Housing Supply Target
2.4	Section 2.4.3 Settlement Hierarchy, Table 2.10 Settlement Hierarchy
2.5	SS7 Development of Small Villages
2.7	Section 2.7 Part V Provision
2.8	PV 1 Part V Provision
2.9	Core Strategy Map and subsequent Strategic Transport Network maps
2.10	New Policy Objective CS 6
2.11	New Policy Objective CS 7
2.13	Core Strategy Composite Map
<b>Chapter 3 Placemaking, Regeneration and Urban Living</b>	
3.1	Amend PO – CGR 7 Building Heights
3.2	Amend PO-CGR 11 Strategic Sites
3.3	Amend PO – CGR 12 Opportunity Sites
3.4	New Policy Objective CGR 13
3.5	New Policy Objective PM 12
3.6	New Policy Objective PM 13
<b>Chapter 4 Rural Living and Development</b>	

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4.6	Amend PO – RH 11
4.7	Amend PO – RH 12
4.1	Amend PO – RC 5
4.11	Amend PO – RC 7
4.13	Amend PO – RD 2
4.14	Amend PO – RD 4
4.15	Amend PO – EQ 1
4.16	Insert new text in section 4.14
4.17	Insert new text in section 4.5.2
<b>Chapter 6 Transport and Movement</b>	
6.1	Insert new text in section 6.5.2.4
6.2	Insert new text in section table 6.1
6.3	Insert new text in section 6.2
6.4	Insert new text in section 6.5.3
6.5	Text change
6.7	Insert new text in PO ILUTP 1
6.8	New PO ILUTP 3
6.9	Insert new text in PH2
6.10	New text in 6.3 Strategic Context
6.18	Insert new text in PO NR1
6.19	Insert new text in PO NR3
6.23	Insert additional text in PO AT2
6.24	Insert new PO PRP 3
<b>Chapter 7 Infrastructure, Utilities and Environmental Protection</b>	
7.1	Text in 7.3 Strategic Context
7.3	Table 7.6
7.4	Amend text in PO WS2
7.6	Insert text in section 7.5.5
7.7	Table 7.8
7.11	Insert text in PO WW3
7.12	Amend text in WW6
7.16	Amend text in Table 7.10
7.18	Amend text in section 7.7
7.19	Amend text in PO EG4
7.20	Amend text in PO EG5

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7.21	Amend text in PO ICT 8
7.22	Amend Map
<b>Chapter 8 Tourism and Landscape</b>	
8.3	New text in section 8.5
8.4	New text in section 8.7
8.6	New PO TI6
8.8	Amend PO CTB4
<b>Chapter 10 Natural Heritage, Biodiversity and Green/Blue Infrastructure</b>	
10.3	Add text to PO PRW1
<b>Chapter 11 Community Development and Social Infrastructure</b>	
11.1	Amend text in PO YP3
11.3	Amend text in PO SRA 2
11.5	Additional text in section 11.5
11.6	New PO H4
<b>Chapter 13 The Galway Gaeltacht Islands</b>	
13.1	New text in section 13.3
<b>Chapter 14 Climate Change, Energy and Renewable Energy &amp; Appendix 1 - LARES</b>	
14.1	New PO RE8
14.2	New text added to PO FL8
14.3	New PO to FL 18
14.5	New text in section 3.1 of LARES
14.6	New text to PO 28
14.7	New text to Section 5.2



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<b>Chapter 15 Development Management Standards</b>	
15.1	New text to DM Standard 2
15.2	New text to table 15.1
15.3	New text to DM Standard 5
15.4	New text to DM Standard 6
15.6	New text to DM Standard 9
15.8	New text to DM Standard 18
15.9	New text to DM Standard 20
15.10	New text to DM Standard 22
15.13	New text to DM Standard 32
15.14	New text to Footnote under table 15.5
15.15	New text to DM Standard 33
15.16	New text to DM Standard 34
15.17	New text to DM Standard 37
15.19	New text to DM Standard 47
15.20	New text to DM Standard 70
15.21	New text to DM Standard 72
<b>Part 2 – Volume 2 Settlement Plans</b>	
<b>Material Alteration Number</b>	<b>Topic</b>
MASP MA 2	Land Use Zoning Matrix
MASP MA 4	Notes for Land Use Matrix Table
MASP MA 5	Notes for Land Use Matrix Table
MASP MA 6	Notes for Land Use Matrix Table
MASP MA 7	Notes for Land Use Matrix Table
MASP MA 8	Notes for Land Use Matrix Table
MASP MA 11	Commentary on Table 1.10.1
MASP MA 12	Land Use Zoning Matrix
Oranmore	
Oranmore MA 1	New PO
Oranmore MA 3	New PO
Oranmore MA 4	New PO
Clifden	
Clifden MA 1	Additional text to Zoning Matrix
Headford MA 1	Additional text to Zoning Matrix

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Headford MA 2	Additional text to narrative
Headford MA 3	Additional text to narrative
Headford MA 4	Additional text to narrative
Maigh Cuilinn	Additional text to Land Use Zoning Map
MASP	
MASP LUZ Baile Chláir 1.1	Zoning to Residential Phase 1
MASP LUZ Baile Chláir 1.4b	Zoning to Community Facilities
MASP LUZ Baile Chláir 1.7	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Baile Chláir 1.8	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Baile Chláir 1.9	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Bearna 2.3	Zoning to Infill/Residential
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.2	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.3	Zoning to CF/ New PO
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.6	Zoning to Residential Infill
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.7	Zoning to Unzoned Lands
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.8	Zoning to Residential Existing
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.9	Zoning to Residential Existing
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.10	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.11	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.12	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Oranmore 3.13	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
MASP LUZ Garraun 5.1	Zoning Residential Phase 2
MASP LUZ Garraun 5.2	Zoning Residential Phase 1
MASP LUZ Garraun 5.3	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Clifden 6.3	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Clifden 6.6	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Clifden 6.7	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Headford 7.1	Zoning to Residential Infill
SGT LUZ Headford 7.5	Zoning to Community Facilities
SGT LUZ Headford 7.6	Zoning to Community Facilities
SGT LUZ Headford 7.9	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Maigh Cuilinn 8.3	Zoning to Business and Enterprise

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SGT LUZ Maigh Cuilinn 8.5e	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Maigh Cuilinn 8.6	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Maigh Cuilinn 8.7a	Zoning to Agriculture
SGT LUZ Maigh Cuilinn 8.7b	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Maigh Cuilinn 8.8	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.7	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.10	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.11	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.12	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.13	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.14	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Oughterard 9.15	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.1	Zoning to Residential Existing
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.3	Zoning to Residential Infill
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.5	Zoning Residential Phase 2
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.6	Zoning to Community Facilities
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.7	Zoning to Tourism
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.8	Zoning to Agriculture
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.9	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGT LUZ Portumna 10.10	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Cheathrú Rua 11.3	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Ballygar 13.1a	Zoning to Unzoned lands
SGV LUZ Ballygar 13.1b	Zoning to Unzoned lands
SGV LUZ Ballygar 13.2	Zoning to Residential Phase 1
SGV LUZ Ballygar 13.3	Zoning to Public Utilities
SGV LUZ Ballygar 13.4	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.1a	Zoning to Village Centre
SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.1b	Zoning to Village Centre/Opportunity Site
SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.2a	Zoning to Village Centre/Opportunity Site
SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.2b	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.3	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.4	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity

SGV LUZ Dunmore 14.5	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Kinvara (Cinn Mhara) 15.2	Zoning to OS/Recreation & Amenity
SGV LUZ Moylough 16.1	Zoning to Unzoned lands
SGV LUZ Moylough 16.2	Zoning to Unzoned lands

*On the proposal of Cllr. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Carroll, it was agreed by the Members to approve the remainder of Material Alterations that were not subject to submissions.*

## GRAMMER AND TYPOS IN PLAN

Mr. Dunne advised that typos and policy number changes will be made to the Plan prior to publication. He advised the core strategy will also need to be amended to reflect the number of zoning changes in the actual plan and to reflect the overall zoning figures.

*On the proposal of Cllr. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Maher, it was agreed by the Members to approve typos and grammar issues in CDP.*

Mr. Dunne advised that arising from SEA and AA assessment, the following additional text was required:

### **AT 2 Local Airstrips**

*(a) The Council shall liaise with the Irish Aviation Authority with regard to the effects of any development proposals in the vicinity of local airstrips.*

*(b) Support that the Cleggan and Inishbofin airstrips be brought into use to support economic development.*

*©. Bringing these airstrips into use would need to be subject to detailed studies and formal approval of any proposals by Galway County Council. Any proposal would need to demonstrate: a contribution towards the proper planning and sustainable development of the county; compliance with all environmental legislation and policies and objectives contained within the Plan and higher level planning documents, including the National Planning Framework and the Northern and Western Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy; and that no effect on the integrity of any European Site would occur.*

Mr. Dunne advised that for part (b) to remain, this additional text was required to be inserted.

**Additional text was proposed by Cllr. Mannion, seconded by Cllr. Maher and agreed by the Members.**

Mr. Dunne advised that there were a number of sites that do not meet flood risk guideline criteria and go against CE Recommendation. These policy objectives were in the Environmental Reports, on public display and the zoning is on it as per Elected Members direction. He stated that there were several environmental issues that must be highlighted also. The following was proposed:

***Flooding Policy Objectives only on lands withy symbol***

*Where such proposals are being adopted it is recommended that the proposal is modified in order to integrate the following requirement, with explicit notification provided on zoning maps:*

*Inappropriate Development on Flood Zones: Where a development/land use is proposed within any area subject to this objective the development proposal will need to be accompanied by a detailed hydrological assessment and robust SUDS design which demonstrates the capacity to withstand potential flood events to maintain water quality and avoid potential effects to ecological features.*

- Any development proposals should be considered with caution and will be required to comply with The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities/Circular PL2/2014 & the associated Development Management Justification Test.*
- Climate Change should be duly considered in any development proposal.*
- Protect the riparian zones of watercourse systems throughout the plan area through a general 10 metre protection buffer from rivers within the plan area as measured from the near river bank, (this distance may be increased and decreased on a site by site basis, as appropriate).*
- Any development proposals submitted for this site will require a detailed ecological report (s), carried out by suitably qualified personnel for the purposes of informing Appropriate Assessment Screening by Galway County Council, the competent authority.*
- The relevant lands will be outlined and flagged with a symbol on the land use zoning map and on the GIS system of Galway County Council so that staff and the public are aware of the special conditions/constraints attached.*
- A briefing will be provided to relevant staff within Galway County Council on the special conditions and constraints on relevant lands."*

*Note that in instances whereby a land use zoning objective for Open Space or Tourism or Community Infrastructure is being provided by an alteration to areas previously unzoned by the Draft Plan, potential effects would be mitigated by other Proposed*

*Material Alterations to the text of Volume 2 that qualify what types of uses would be permissible.*

*This was proposed by Cllr. McKinstry, seconded by Cllr. Carroll and agreed by the Members.*

## **AA Determination**

Ms. Loughnane advised that the Members would have received report on the determinations of Appropriate Assessment (AA) amendments made to the Plan for their consideration on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> May which now required the signature of the Director of Services.

*AA Determination was proposed by Cllr. Roche, seconded by Cllr. Canning and agreed by the Members.*

## **RESOLUTION OF MAKING OF COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Ms. Loughnane advised that the Plan comes into effect six weeks from date of adoption of Plan and all supporting documentation comes into play on that day also. An advertisement will be placed in paper and the OPR and Minister will be informed that the Plan has been made. A report is required to be sent to OPR compiling any recommendations which the Members rejected or voted against accompanied by the Members' requisite reasoning for those rejections. The OPR then make their recommendations and this report is considered by the Minister for Housing and Planning, whose discretion it is to action those recommendations or not in the form of a Draft Ministerial Direction. If there is no draft ministerial direction received, then the Plan is automatically adopted.

Cllr. Byrne queried if the CDP would be delayed were there to be any draft ministerial directions received and would the six-week timeframe for adoption still apply. Ms. Loughnane advised that only the sections subject to ministerial direction would not come into effect after the six weeks.

Cllr. Cronnelly queried whether the Members would receive notification should Ministerial Direction be issued. Ms. Loughnane advised that any such direction would appear on OPR website, will be placed on Galway County Council's website and the Members will be informed of same. She further advised if issued, the ministerial direction, would have to go on public display, submissions invited, etc. and would entail entering another process in respect of that.

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Cllr. Kinane sought clarity on the timelines of when the new CDP would come into effect and what would the timeframe be for a possible direction. Mr. Dunne advised that he could not answer that question as it depended on whether a draft direction would be issued by the Minister. He reiterated that it was out of their hands and timelines were dependent on whether a ministerial direction was issued.

Having considered the Plan, the Proposed Material Alterations, the CE Reports on submissions received (including that on the proposed material alterations) and the

- The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report for the Draft Plan
- The Appropriate Assessment (AA) Natura Impact Report for the Draft Plan
- The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the Draft Plan
- The SEA Environmental Report for the Proposed Material Alterations
- The Natura Impact Report for the Proposed Material Alterations
- Written submissions relating to SEA, AA and SFRA made during the Plan preparation process
- Ongoing advice on SEA, AA and SFRA from the Council's agents
- The final, consolidated Natura Impact Report
- The final AA Determination

In accordance with the provisions of Section 12(10) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the members agree, by resolution, to make the Plan, as recommended by the Chief Executive and as further modified by way of motions and resolutions at the Special Council Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 and 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and to proceed in accordance with Section 12(12) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to publish notice of the making of the Plan.

A Vote was taken on the passing of the Resolution to make the Plan, and the following was the result:

For: 36

Cllr. Broderick  
Cllr. Carroll  
Cllr. D. Connolly  
Comh. O Cualain  
Cllr. Dolan  
Cllr. Geraghty  
Cllr. P. Keaveney  
Cllr. Kinane  
Cllr. Maher  
Cllr. McKinstry

Cllr. Byrne  
Cllr. Charity  
Cllr. M. Connolly  
Cllr. Cuddy  
Cllr. Donohue  
Cllr. Herterich/Quinn  
Cllr. Kelly  
Cllr. King  
Cllr. Mannion  
Cllr. Murphy

Cllr. Canning  
Cllr. Collins  
Cllr. G. Cronnelly  
Comh. O Curraoin  
Cllr. Finnerty  
Cllr. Hoade  
Cllr. Killilea  
Comh. Mac an Iomaire  
Cllr. McHugh Farag  
Cllr. Parsons

## Minutes of Special Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Cllr. Reddington  
Cllr. Thomas

Cllr. Roche  
Cllr. Walsh

Cllr. Sheridan  
Cllr. Welby

No Reply: 3

***The Cathaoirleach declared the Resolution carried.***

The Members agreed by resolution to adopt the Plan following the above Roll Call vote of 36 Members in favour of the adoption.

Cllr. Byrne, on behalf of the Fine Gael Group, thanked his fellow Members for the lively debates and discourse throughout the process stating it was important to remember that they were all collectively doing their best for the county. He thanked the Forward Planning Team, Director of Services for the incredible work they did over the past two years and hoped that there would not be too much interference from the Minister in terms of ministerial direction.

Cllr. Reddington stated that this was his first CDP, and he thanked the Forward Planning Team for all their assistance during the process. He complimented the Cathaoirleach for his measured approach and patience throughout proceedings.

Cllr. Collins, Chair of Athenry/Oranmore Municipal District stated that as a new Councillor, this has been a huge learning curve for him. He thanked everybody for their expertise and guidance. He thanked his fellow Members and stated that while they did not always agree on everything, they had a CDP that they could be proud of.

Cllr. Hoade, on behalf of Fianna Fail Group, thanked Forward Planning Team for their support and approach to the Members in relation to the Plan and wished to acknowledge their huge contribution.

Cllr. Welby on behalf of Independent Members, wished to be associated with previous comments. He thanked the Forward Planning Staff, and all involved throughout this long and arduous process. He commented on the large number of submissions received compared to previous plans and the difficulty in having to do meetings on-line and complimented all involved.

Cllr. McKinstry wished to echo the sentiments of his colleagues. He particularly wished to thank Ms. Loughnane and Mr. Dunne for their willingness to compromise and provide explanations throughout the process and commented that this was probably the most important piece of work that the Councillors would complete during their five-year tenure.



## **Minutes of Special Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Cllr. Cuddy complimented the Cathaoirleach on the excellent way he conducted and handled the meetings. He advised that this was his fourth Development Plan and stated that it was the most difficult to-date. He thanked the Planning Staff and Ms. Brann, Meetings Administrator for their excellent professionalism throughout the process.

Cllr. Carroll wished to be associated with the comments of his fellow Councillors. He urged Developers and Landowners not to sit on RI zonings and get planning applications in for the much-needed houses that Galway required. He stated that this plan will be a great plan for the county going forward and thanked all those concerned and involved in the process.

Cllr. Roche stated that he would like to echo all the words of thanks and praise to CE, DOS and Forward Planning Staff. He stated that it has been a very challenging Plan and thanked the Cathaoirleach for dealing with meetings in a very fair and balanced way. He thanked Ms. Brann for doing a remarkable job and dealing with connectivity issues, etc.

Cllr. Geraghty echoed sentiments of previous speakers. He stated that it has been an exceptionally hard slog and thanked all Executive involved in the process. He stated that at the end of the day, he believed they had done a good job for the people of Galway.

Cllr. Dr. Parsons thanked everybody involved in the process. She stated that it was a huge learning curve for her, and it was a privilege and an honour to have taken part in it. She thanked the established Members for their wisdom and direction throughout the process.

Cllr. Donoghue thanked Cathaoirleach P. Keaveney for all his patience over the past few months and for the respect shown to everybody. She thanked the Forward Planning Staff for all their help and assistance throughout the process. She enquired what was the deadline for submission of a variation to the Plan? In response, Ms. Loughnane advised that it depended on when Plan is adopted, when it comes into force, and it also depended on the outcome of OPR response over coming weeks.

Cllr. Sheridan thanked all involved and made special reference to the bravery of the new Members in dealing with this arduous process.

Cllr. Murphy thanked the Forward Planning Staff, CE and DOS for all their help throughout the process. He stated that it was extremely educational for him, and he had learned a significant amount about the Planning process from this endeavour.

The Members complimented Cathaoirleach P. Keaveney on doing such a good job and for being so equitable in dealing with everybody during the meetings.

## **Minutes of Special Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Cathaoirleach P. Keaveney thanked Mr. Owens and all the Forward Planning Team for all the work they have put in and who were always available to help the Members. He thanked the Directors for their guidance and insight also and gave a special thanks to Ms. Brann, Corporate and IT Staff.

Ms. Loughnane thanked the Members for their contribution throughout the 99-week process and the Cathaoirleach for his patience and understanding throughout. She thanked Mr. Cullen, CE; Kevin Kelly, former CE, and Eileen Ruane, DOS who were there for the start of the process. She thanked Ms. Brann and the Corporate team, Mr. Pender and Mr. Hanrahan, Director of Services. She thanked David L'Estrange and his team of Environmental Consultants who worked many weekends during this process. She thanked all the admin and technical staff in the Forward Planning Unit who were involved throughout this process who have been here for the long haul and have done amazing work. She especially paid tribute to Mr. Dunne who worked tirelessly throughout the process. She stated that this Plan was a fantastic team effort and made particular reference to the Forward Planning Team's excellent work with the Urban Design Framework in Garraun and the securing of funding from the Department. She concluded by thanking her admin colleagues in Corporate Services.

Mr. Dunne echoed Ms. Loughnane's comments. He stated that they had some robust discussions on some of the items but acknowledged that it was a democratic process and stated that the Members had taken part in a lengthy and detailed process over the last two years. He stated that there was a tremendous amount of effort behind the scenes, and he complimented Ms. Loughnane as Team Leader, Mr. Corcoran, Ms. O'Moore, Mr. Ward & Mr. Fleming within the Forward Planning Team and to Mr. Cullen and Mr. Owens on their direction throughout the process.

Mr. Owens stated that it was a tremendous team effort throughout the 99-week process. He thanked Mr. Cullen for his support and guidance throughout the process. He thanked his colleagues on the Executive Team, the Technical and Administrative staff in Planning Department and acknowledged the assistance of the Corporate Staff for arranging meetings. He thanked the Cathaoirleach for his professionalism in dealing with what was a very demanding process. He thanked the Elected Members for their passion and engagement in the process. He stated that they had been very fortunate with the team leading this process out in Ms. Loughnane, Mr. Dunne and Mr. Corcoran and he wanted to record his appreciation and thanks for the work undertaken during the 99-week process and the support they have afforded him throughout. He stated he looked forward to working with the Members in the implementation of the new Plan.

Mr. Cullen stated that the CDP was one of, if not the, most important plans the Council will adopt during its tenure. He stated that it was much more than a development management tool, as it will steer the county's economic development, tourism,

## **Minutes of Special Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

environmental aspirations, and infrastructure for years to come. He stated as the plan becomes operational, there will be particular emphasis on monitoring of the plan that will feed into the mid-term-review. He thanked the Members for their consideration of the Plan and time invested in it. He stated that it has been the most robust plan he has been involved in to-date and was hopeful that the Plan reflects the democratic will of the Councillors. He thanked Ms. Loughnane, Mr. Dunne, Mr. Corcoran and all the Team lead by Mr. Owens. He thanked the Cathaoirleach for his stewardship and his patience throughout this process. He thanked the Members for adoption of CDP which he was confident will serve the people well into the future.

***The Meeting ended.***

## **Chriochnaigh an Cruinniú Ansin**

**Submitted, Signed and Approved**



**Cathaoirleach:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ 27/06/2022 \_\_\_\_\_