

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

Ceanatar Bardasach Bhaile Átha an Rí

Municipal District of Athenry

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Municipal District of Athenry
held in Aras an Chontae, on Tuesday 14th June 2022**

I LATHAIR:

BAILL: Cllr. J. Charity (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. J. Cuddy,
Cllr. L. Carroll,
Cllr. S. Herterich Quinn
Cllr G. Cronnelly

OIFIGIGH: Mr M. McGovern, A/ Head of Finance
Ms Rachel Lowe, Senior Engineer,
Mr. S. Whelan, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. P. Gavin, Executive Engineer
Ms. M. Jordan, Administrative Officer
Ms. G. Cooley, Asst. Staff Officer

Apologies Cllr. A. Dolan
Cllr. D. Collins
G. Mullarkey

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all to the meeting.

On the PORPOSAL of Cllr Charity, SECONDED by Cllr. Cronnelly and agreed a minutes silence was held for Phelim Murphy who passed away at the weekend.

The Cathaoirleach and members complimented Cllr Collins the outgoing Cathaoirleach. He also thanked the staff of Galway County Council for organising and managing the meetings during the pandemic.

Election of Cathaoirleach of the Athenry Municipal District Council 2022-2023

AMD116

Cllr Cronnelly PROPOSED that Cllr. Carroll be elected as Cathaoirleach and this proposal was SECONDED by Cllr Cuddy and AGREED.

Cllr Carroll ACCEPTED the nomination.

As there was no other nomination, the Cathaoirleach DECLARED Cllr Carroll ELECTED as Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District Council of Athenry for the year 2022/2023.

Cathaoirleach Carroll then assumed the Chair.

The Cathaoirleach expressed his sympathy to Cllr Collins who is a godson of Phelim Murphy. He also complimented Cllr Dolan who climbed Mt Kilimanjaro in aid of the Alzheimer's Association.

The newly elected Cathaoirleach thanked the Members for electing him and he thanked the staff of the Athenry Municipal District for their hard work during the year.

Election of the Leas-Cathaoirleach of the Athenry Municipal District Council 2022 **MD117**

Cllr Cuddy PROPOSED that Cllr Cronnelly be elected as Leas-Cathaoirleach and this proposal was SECONDED by Cllr Charity and AGREED.

Cllr Cronnelly accepted the nomination.

As there was no other nomination, the Cathaoirleach DECLARED Cllr Cronnelly ELECTED as Leas-Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District Council of Athenry for the year 2022-2023.

To fix a Schedule of Meetings for the Municipal District Council for 2022-2023 **AMD118**

On the Proposal of Cllr Charity, SECONDED by Cllr. Cuddy, the Members AGREED that the Meetings of the Athenry Municipal District Council would take place bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 2.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, as follows:

Tuesday 12th July 2022 at 2pm
Tuesday 13th September 2022 at 2pm
Tuesday 8th November 2022 at 2pm
Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 2pm
Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 2pm
Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 2pm

The Cathaoirleach said that while the Municipal District of Athenry has 25% of the County's population the roads budget for the area only amounts to 8%. He said that every road in the county leads into the Athenry MD area. Galway County Council are bottom of the league in funding Nationwide and increased funding is essential. This was concurred by the other Members. The infrastructure improvements in towns and villages such as Oranmore, Athenry and Claregalway are crucial. He also said that if the opportunity to do the traffic management plan is missed while schools are closed for the summer it will have to wait until September.

Cllr Carroll said that there has been a significant amount of funding allocated to Athenry MD for town and village renewal, active travel and other schemes. He asked that the members be provided with what has been spent to date in these areas and details of proposed expenditure for the balance.

He said that the Athenry MD Members were proactive in developing the County Development Plan. He complimented Cllr Collins for holding meetings with the Athenry MD members in preparation for the planning meetings and he said that he wished to thank his fellow members. He asked that timely updates be provided on the County Development Plan for Athenry/Oranmore, plans for the economic corridor and the development of the platform for the proposed rail loop at Oranmore station.

Cllr Carroll requested that the IDA be invited to the next meeting. The District Manager of Iarnród Éireann, Derek Curran, and the Regional Manager of Bus Éireann should also be invited to the Athenry MD meetings. He said that there is a lack of bus services in rural county Galway. There is a deficit in infrastructure in the Athenry MD area with problems in Claregalway in relation to traffic calming. He is looking forward to working with Officials during the year and progressing the necessary works. He thanked members for electing him as Cathaoirleach.

The members congratulated the Cathaoirleach on his election.

In relation to the lack of funding Cllr Charity suggested that dialogue take place with the other MDs in relation to the allocation criteria of roads funding.

Cllr Charity asked that the NTA be invited to an Athenry MD meeting.

Cllr Cronnelly thanked the Members for electing him and he said that he was looking forward to working with the members and officials for the coming year.

Cllr Cuddy said that the Traffic Management Plan was adopted for Claregalway in 2019 but no progress has been made on it to date. He said that he welcomed funding for the Oranmore rail loop but emphasised that public transport is not available for most of the local population.

The Cathaoirleach thanked all present

Criochnaigh an Cruinniu Ansin.

Approved by

James Charity
CATHAOIRLEACH

Date: 13/9/2022

