

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. D. Geraghty

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Cllrs. T. Broderick, D. Connolly, P. Keaveney, E. Parsons

**Oifigigh:** Mr. L. Hanrahan Director of Services, Ms. R. Lowe Senior Engineer, Mr. D. Troy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. Batty Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Mr. N. Raftery Executive Technician, Mr. E. Monahan Technician Grade 1, Ms. A. Monaghan Staff Officer, Ms. A. Spelman Meetings Administrator

As a mark of respect for the late Mr. Tom Hussey RIP and Ms. Kathleen Quinn RIP it was proposed by Cllr. Geraghty and agreed by all to adjourn the meeting for five minutes.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**  
**MD824001**

Cllrs Parsons asked that it be noted that she arrived late to the Ballinasloe MD Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December and was not in attendance for items raised on minutes.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. Broderick.

**Matters arising from the Minutes.**

In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Troy provided an update on the Glenamaddy Turlough. Mr. Troy advised that segments of the report are due to be completed by March. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Troy advised that there are no preferred options at present. Mr. Troy advised that 2D mapping of the site had been received and that water quality sampling was ongoing. Cllr. Geraghty also expressed support for the advancement of the project.

In response to Cllrs. D. Connolly, Geraghty and Parsons, Mr. Troy advised that it was expected that the pedestrian crossing lights near Creagh Junction were to be re-activated shortly. Ms. Lowe advised that the re-design of the junction would be addressed at the next Meeting with the NTA as part of an active travel application at the area.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Troy advised that he would inspect the footpaths in question at St. Josephs and would look to include in a programme of repair of footpaths in the Town for 2024 subject to resources.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the role of Just Transition Activator had not been filled following advertisement. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that Galway County Council had advertised for the position with a view to a potential 5-year contract to make the job more attractive. In response to the members, Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that Galway County Council were not missing any deadlines on the Just Transition Fund as the current Tourism Officer, Mr. Neary was covering the position and had meetings with stakeholders.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he had not received a response from the Law Agent regarding Cllr. Brodericks request for legal advice.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Troy advised that contractors on behalf of Iarnrod Eireann had applied for a Road Opening Licence and that it was expected that work would be completed in the short term.

#### **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS**

MD823059

Mr. Hanrahan provided an update on the Just Transition Fund. He advised that the BACD co working premises was nearing completion. Mr. Hanrahan advised that Mr. Neary was collaborating with Strategic Partners. Mr. Hanrahan advised that the digitization of documents at Battle of Aughrim Site was proposed along with public realm funding for both Aughrim and Ahascragh villages. Cllrs. D. Connolly and Parsons expressed concern at the proposed placement of a mast in the centre of Aughrim village and that the members support the locals in opposing same. Mr. Hanrahan advised of what would be involved with regard Public Realm projects. Ms. Lowe advised that it was proposed to place an EV Charger in Aughrim village and that an overall plan for EV Charges in the County was being worked on and she would revert with detail at a later stage. Ms. Lowe advised that the Roads Department would also play a part in improving villages via their various funding streams.

Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Community Support Scheme application were now being accepted and that the closing date for same was the 28<sup>th</sup> of February.

Mr. Hanrahan provided an update on housing projects at St. Josephs, Dunlo Hill, Ahascragh and Esker Riada. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Hanrahan advised that shortlisting for the twenty-two houses in Glenamaddy had commenced.

In response to Cllr. Broderick with regard concerts at the Fairgreen in Ballinasloe, Mr. Hanrahan advised that a proposal on this was being prepared by Pearse Doherty.

Cllr. Parsons advised that following the great success of the Connacht Cyclecross Event in the Fairgreen that it was hoped that the National Championships could take place in the Fairgreen in 2025.

Cllr. Broderick advised that it was proposed that the Connacht Fleadh would be taking place in Ballinasloe in 2025. Mr. Hanrahan advised that Galway County Council had not received any notice of this but welcomed the news.

In response to Cllrs. Broderick, Parsons and Geraghty, Mr. Hanrahan advised the members that policy issues with regard paid parking would have to be addressed via the Roads and Transportation SPC. All members agreed that Disability Parking Bays were sacrosanct and use of same without appropriate badges should be taken very seriously. Cllr. Geraghty asked that all these locations be mapped.

#### **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

MDB23060

Cllr. Geraghty asked that the issue of paid parking in our towns be reviewed.

Cllr. Geraghty asked that the cleaning of culverts on local roads be addressed.

Cllr. Geraghty paid tribute to all the front-line staff who worked during Storm Isha, namely Galway County Council outdoor employees, ESB staff, Garda Siochana, Ambulance staff. Ms. Lowe asked that all members promote the use of the Map Alerter system to their constituents and local community groups.

#### **VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS**

MDB23061

##### **Vote of Sympathy**

The Hussey Family, Patch, Glenamaddy  
The McDermott Family, Williamstown  
The Nicolson Family, Lenamarla Creggs  
The McDermott Family, Derryvode, Williamstown  
The Quinn Family, Ussey, Glinsk  
The Keavney Family, Gloon, Glenamaddy  
The Finnegan Family, Bookla, Balllymoe  
The Nee Family, Derryvode, Williamstown  
The Collins Family, Moorfield Farm, Williamstown  
The Kelly Family, Cloran, Athenry  
The Burke Family, Cogaula, Clonberne  
The Carty Family, Toonard, Newbridge  
The Moran Family, Curraghmore, Kilkerrin

The Mannion Family, Glenamaddy  
The Ward Family, O'Keefe Park Glenamaddy  
The Fallon Family, Kilkerrin Road, Glenamaddy  
The Devaney Family, Balagh, Menlough  
The Darcy Family, Derrymullen

Vote of Congratulations

Congratulations to Carmel Greally, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe who is a finalist in 'Her Sports' Awards in recognition of her commitment and dedication and hard work in the Community Games at local, County, and national levels being held this weekend in UCD and we wish her every success.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MD823062

Molaim mar aitheantas gurb é Contae na Gaillimhe an contae dátheangach is mó sa tír go n-úsáidimid roinnt frásaí Gaeilge agus muid ag stiúradh ár gcéad Chruinniú Ceantar Bardasach eile i mBéal Átha na Sluaighe a bheadh ar siúl i mí Feabhra tar éis Sheachtain na Gaeilge.

I proposed in recognition of the fact Galway County is the largest bilingual county in the country that we use a number of Irish phrases in the conduct of our next Ballinasloe Municipal District Meeting which will be held in February after Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Proposed by Cllr. Dr. E. Parsons and seconded by Cllr. Dermot Connolly

A discussion took place with regard the flying of the Palestinian Flag in Ballinasloe Flag in Ballinasloe Town. It was agreed following discussion to defer the issue to the next Municipal District Meeting to give members time to decide on a preferred peace flag.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Troy advised that Uisce Eireann following unplanned emergency works will do a temporary re-instatement of the road. This will then be followed by full re-instatement following a period of time. Mr. Troy asked that the location in question be relayed to him for further investigation.

Cllrs. D. Connolly and Parsons paid tribute to the Taking in Charge Team for their ongoing work with the Old Mill Road Estate especially Ms. Edel Hourigan.

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 2pm.

**CHRÍOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNÍU ANSIN**

Signed:

Date: 14.02.24