

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY 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 Service, Ms. Jacqueline O’Carroll Director of Services, Mr. D. Troy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. Batty Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Ms. D. Gibbons Executive Engineer, Ms. E. Hourigan Administrative Officer, Ms. A. Spelman Meetings Administrator

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON 8TH MAY 2024

MDB24021

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 8th of May 2024 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. Broderick.

Matters arising from the Minutes.

Both Cllr. Parsons and Cllr. Geraghty paid tribute to Ms. Teesie Burke on her 100th Birthday.

PRESENTATION ON THE BUS STOP AND SHELTER UPGRADE PROGRAMME BY DONNA GIBBONS – ACTIVE TRAVEL

A presentation was given by Donna Gibbons, Executive Engineer on the bus stop and shelter upgrade programme.

Cllr. Parsons welcomed to the developments and queried what are the timelines and due to the cessation of Air Coach will bus stops be available for commercial usage? Cllr. Parsons informed the meeting that she had met with Anne Graham the CEO of the NTA and conveyed that there's a disconnect on the ground with the NTA; that people can't get in and out of town, that there are no taxis, bus stops should therefore be mirrored in commercially viable routes Cllr. Parsons expressed concern that the NTA are using 2016 figures which are out of date, bus stops are important for not only economic and social cohesion but also for mental health. Cllr. D. Connolly welcomed the developments

especially having allocated notice of motion money to Ahascragh, he wished to acknowledge the work that John Morgan has done in this area and queried as to whether there would be ring fenced funding for the projects. Cllr. Keaveney welcomed the developments in particular for Mountbellew, Moylough and Ballymoe. Cathaoirleach Geraghty thanked Ms. Gibbons for the presentation and welcomed the developments. In response to Cllr. Parsons queries Ms. Gibbons stated that the current timeline is dependent on a tender which should be completed by late June/early July with the aim of getting the framework up and running, the NTA is funding works and installations and have committed to funding all the proposed locations in tranche 1.

CONSIDERATION OF A DECLARATION THAT THE ROADS HEREUNDER, SHALL BE PUBLIC ROADS: DESCRIPTION: FOREST VIEW, BALLYGAR, COUNTY GALWAY

HOUSES NOS 13 TO 36 (INCLUSIVE)– POINTS A TO D (INCLUSIVE) ON TAKING IN CHARGE MAP ROAD COMMENCING AT ITS JUNCTION WITH THE L-2311 AND EXTENDING IN A NORTH WESTERLY DIRECTION TO HOUSE 23, THEN TURNING NORTHERLY TO A POINT ADJACENT TO HOUSE 36 AND TURNING EASTERNLY AND ENDING ADJACENT TO HOUSE NO. 28 FOR A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 246 METERS (ALL IN THE TOWNLAND OF BALLYGAR).

The taking charge of Forest View Ballygar County Galway was proposed by Cllr. T Broderick and seconded by Cathaoirleach Geraghty.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB24022

Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that he met with the HSE in relation to Saint Bridget's nursing home site. The site is large and there are three zoning, DV accommodation, recreational space, and support to OPW works along the river. Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that in relation to the lane closure at St Joesphs communications will improve with the contractor. Mr. Hanrahan also confirmed that planning has commenced in relation to the Horse Fair with the Municipal District and the Fair Committee.

Cllr Parsons welcomed the news on the domestic violence centre and developments that will benefit the wider community and thanked all involved in the development and tackling dereliction. Cllr. Connolly acknowledged that while the alternative route adds a distance at Saint Josephs, he welcomed communication improvement between the MD and the public. Cllr Broderick queried whether the Just Transition officer could be placed in Ballinasloe full time and if not for the vast majority of their time. Cllr. Keaveney queried the application process timelines. Cllr. Parsons queried whether local business could tender for the projects.

Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that Ms. McGann will identify areas that require funding in the Community Recognition Programme. Whilst there is no ring-fenced funding for Ballinasloe, Ballinasloe is eligible for funding under this scheme.

Cllr. Broderick expressed concern in relation to the lack of ring-fenced funding and understood that this would be provided on foot of hosting 64 modular homes for the displaced people from Ukraine. Cllr D. Connolly stated both areas geographically close to the site should be developed in a similar way that the Kilconnell fund was rolled out. Cllr. Parsons stressed the importance of having resources in place in advance of the arrival of displaced people. Mr. Hanrahan stated that we have to go with what the department are providing; that there are other towns and areas that can avail of the community recognition funding and that Ballinasloe is one of these towns. Cllr Broderick stated that his clear understanding was that there was specific funding for Ballinasloe he expressed concern that this program dilutes funding and queried as to where the community funding was specifically in relation to the modular homes in Ballinasloe; stating that all services should be front loaded; that the only modular homes in the county are in Ballinasloe and it was his understanding that there would be specific fund. Cllr. D Connolly stated that there is to be a fund and that the meeting on Friday should bring clarity on the issue with Director Mr. Michael Owens. Cllr. Parsons queried as to whether the Integration Officers would be attending on Friday. Cllr. Geraghty stated that community funding will be available once the Ukrainians are in place and then the money/funding can be accessed Cllr. Keaveney welcomed that the separate tranches being rolled out under the community recognition scheme allowing Ballinasloe to access the funding. Cllr. Parsons stressed the importance of the pedestrian crossing and biodiversity works in the area; Mr. Troy said that the funding for this is being obtained by the developers on site.

Cllr. D Connolly queried as to when will the section of road be delivered, Mr. D Troy indicated that it would be delivered in June or July of this year and that the pedestrian works in the town were part of the Road Works Programme will take place in late summer Cllr. Parsons queried as to whether there would be an extension of the footpaths. Mr. Hanrahan stated that that works must be done via the municipal district engineer. Ms. O'Carroll stated that the Local Authority Integration Team would not be attending the meeting on Friday however they will be speaking with Councillors over the coming months; and envisioned that a webinar in relation to the Just Transition Fund would be circulated with planned progression into the settlement. Cllr. Parsons queried as to whether there was a CCTV update. Mr. Hanrahan responded that that was with the environment section. Cllr Broderick queried whether there would be a meeting with the Creagh residents' association Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that there would be. Cllr. Broderick queried as to whether the byelaws for graveyards could be reconsidered on a national level. Mr. Hanrahan concurred with the Councillors comments that the byelaws need to be strengthened. Cllr. Broderick expressed his concern that parking program was cost neutral and could we abolish parking charges. Mr. Hanrahan responded that although cost neutral there needs to be a flow of traffic. Cllr. Parsons queried as to whether businesses could get free parking and for there to be an increase of disability spaces and would assist in the funding of this from notice of motion money. Cllr. Geraghty concurred that disability spaces should not be taken away from existing spaces. Cllr. Broderick queried as to whether derelict sites on the Main Street could be enhanced Mr. Hanrahan confirmed yes and sought further information from Cllr. Broderick after the meeting. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that enhancement of derelict urban areas would make a difference to the town in particular Society Street.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB24023

Cllr. Geraghty drew attention to the fact that the online school transport system portal was open should anyone wish to make an application. Cllr. Geraghty expressed his concern that septic tank grants were not working the way they should. Cllr. Geraghty expressed his concern that during the housing crisis there are derelict properties in many communities that should be used to solve the housing crisis. Cllr. Geraghty expressed his thanks to Mr. Troy, Ms. Lowe, Ms. Monaghan, Ms. Spelman, Mr. McGlynn, Mr. Troy, Mr. Fahy, Mr. Batty, and all in Ballinasloe and welcomed Jacqueline O' Carroll as the new Director to the Ballinasloe Municipal District. Cllr Geraghty also thanked the media, the Councillors and the good people working in the council having resulted in great teamwork and the successful delivery of many projects. Cllr. Geraghty paid tribute to Cllr. Broderick and thanked him for his 15 years of service and wished him all the best. Cllr. Geraghty wished all his colleagues the best of luck in the local elections and thanked everyone for all their help through the years.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

MDB24024

The Dowd Family, Glinsk Co. Galway
The Kenny Family, Glenamaddy, Williamstown, Co. Galway
The Kelly Family, Glinsk, Co. Galway
The O'Connor Family, Williamstown, Co. Galway
The Collins Family, Kilkerrin, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
The Quinn Family, Kilmacrickard, Glinsk, Co. Galway
The Gilligan Family, Kilkerrin Road, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway
The Glynn Family, Moylough, Co. Galway
The Noone Family, Mountbellew, Co. Galway
The Brennan Family, Williamstown, Co. Galway

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB24025

Cllr. Parsons welcomed Jacqueline O'Carroll and welcomed the gender balance and thanked Mr. Hanrahan for his participation. Cllr. D. Connolly welcomed Jacqueline O' Carroll to Béal Átha na Sluaighe and thanked Mr. Hanrahan for bringing us through the year with steady hands and that was a job well done. Cllr. Keaveney wished Liam Hanrahan the best luck and welcomed Jacqueline O'Carroll to the area; he also wished Cllr. Broderick best of luck and commended the strong voice for control Mr. Hanrahan expressed his thanks to the members and for their support and tireless work in the Ballinasloe Municipal District; he thanked all the Ballinasloe team, the Councillors and Chair and wished them all the best and Cllr. Broderick all the best in his retirement. Cllr. Broderick welcomed Jacqueline O'Carroll to the area and thanked everyone for their support and stated that he had no regrets however his biggest regret was the bed closures in Ballinasloe hospital; it's the only issue that remains scandalous stating that he

did his best and applauds anyone who goes into politics and is looking forward to retirement.

CHRIODHNAIGH AN CRUINNUI ANSIN

Signed:

Michael Connolly

Dated:

10/7/2024

