

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE**

**GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Átha an Rí**

**Municipal District of Athenry**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Athenry held via Teams ,  
on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.**

**I LATHAIR:**

**BAILL:** Cllr. G. Cronnelly, (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. J. Cuddy,  
Cllr. L. Carroll,  
Cllr. J. Charity  
Cllr. S. Herterich Quinn  
Cllr. A. Dolan  
Cllr D. Collins

**OIFIGI GH:** Mr G. Mullarkey, Director of Service  
Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer,  
Ms F. Holland, Senior Engineer,  
Ms. P. Higgins, Senior Executive Engineer  
M. Jordan, Administrative Officer  
Ms. G. Cooley, Asst. Staff Officer

**To confirm minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the  
13<sup>th</sup> April, 2021**

**AMD77**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Carroll, SECONDED by Cllr. Cuddy the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 were AGREED.

**Matters Arising**

In relation to a query by Cllr. Dolan Ms. Higgins advised that the area Engineers completed a survey at Gloves and estimated the cost to complete the drainage works is approximately €10,000 to €15,000 . It is hoped to commence these works in the coming months.

Cllr. Cronnelly said that some funding could be made available from the Members Notice of Motion allocation.

## **Notice of Motion :Cllr James Charity**

**AMD 78**

"I propose that the Roads Department furnish this Municipal Council with a list of all Notice of Motion works which have been fully assigned monies for completion for a period of 6 months or more, to set out the date each project was fully assigned monies, and to further set out an estimated time of completion for each and every such assignment and explain the order of priority"

Ms Higgins advised that she had communicated individually with the Members on the Notice of Motion schedule of works in early 2021. She said that the works outstanding relate to a number of drainage jobs, the taking in charge in Tonnegarrane and a wall at Lackagh. She explained that these works are normally done at the end of the year after the Roads Programme is completed. However, in 2020 due to the covid pandemic and the extra funding received for Active Travel there were delays. Ms Higgins said that she will liaise with the members and provide them with an up to date schedule.

Cllr. Charity welcomed the response and added that it was important to progress with the Tonnegarrane and Lackagh works.

## **Municipal District Director's Business & Correspondence**

**AMD79**

Ms Holland attended the meeting and advised that there would be a proposed amendment to the special speed limit at the R446 between Coldwood and the Oranbeg roundabout. She highlighted the proposed changes on a map. This followed on from a misinterpretation of the speed limit proposals which the Councillors believed were adopted in January 2019 and a commitment from the Director of Services to address same. The changes proposed involve the moving of the 60 kph speed limit by 240m East of the Oranbeg Water Tower and moving the 80kph speed limit 200m east of Fureys cross.

Cllr. Cuddy pointed out that what was agreed in 2019 was not what was on the ground and he welcomed the clarification of the matter.

Following a query from Cllr Carroll, Ms Holland confirmed that this was not a technical recommendation but a clarification of what the Councillors had understood to be agreed at the meeting where they adopted the special speed limit byelaws.

In relation to a query from Cllr Dolan on the timeframe involved in carrying out the works, Ms. Holland advised that it could take approximately three months and will be brought to the Plenary meeting following completion of public consultation process.

## **Cathaoirleach's Business**

**AMD 80**

Cllr. Cuddy said that he intends to bring a proposal to the Plenary Meeting in relation to the shortage of Enforcement Staff in the Planning Section.

In reply to a query by Cllr Herterich Quinn, Mr. Mitchell advised that four extra staff have been approved under the Active Travel Scheme. The Members expressed their disappointment at the low number.

Cllr. Charity asked for an update on the matter of fencing on the N84. He said that there is an ongoing issue of horses loose on the Curragh line. Mr. Mitchell said that the matter was with the Senior Management Team for a formal decision.

### **The following proposal was made by Cllr Carroll**

That Galway County Council write to Irish Water with a view to reinstating the R446 from the roundabout at the Community Centre in Oranmore to the outskirts of Craughwell Village in accordance with the conditions of the road opening licence granted by Galway County Council.

On the PROPOSAL OF Cllr Carroll, SECONDED by Cllr Cronnelly the motion was AGREED.

Ms. Higgins advised that a road opening licence to allow the contractors to complete permanent reinstatement works at this location will be granted shortly.

### **The following proposal was made by Cllr Carroll**

That Galway County Council establish the ownership of unoccupied buildings in the centre of Oranmore Village. Some of these properties have fallen into a state of extreme dereliction and are a blight on the Village Centre. Once ownership has been established that Galway County Council write to the owners requesting/insisting that each property be renovated and brought up to an acceptable standard.

On the PROPOSAL OF Cllr Carroll, SECONDED by Cllr Cronnelly the motion was AGREED.

This was also supported by Cllr. Charity and he added that owners should take responsibility for maintaining their properties.

### **The following proposal was made by Cllr Carroll**

That Galway County Council who are joint owners of Rinvile Park with Galway City Council refurbish the roadway from the gate leading to Rinvile Cemetery to the boundary of the extended cemetery. The existing roadway in the grounds of the cemetery which is used by hearses is of a rough shale/stone construction and not very user friendly for wheelchair bound mourners, for users of mobility aids or in many cases for elderly and infirm mourners. Furthermore this motion calls on the 2 Local Authorities to tarmac the road in question.

On the PROPOSAL OF Cllr Carroll, SECONDED by Cllr Cronnelly the motion was AGREED.

Cllr. Collins said that in recent weeks, community groups have been carrying out spring cleans in many locations in the MD and that they have come across severe roadside

dumping. Cllr. Collins asked if a databases of households using bins could be prepared by Council staff using eir-codes. This would assist Enforcement Officers in identifying households that did not have a waste collection service.

While Cllr. Cuddy agreed with the fact that there is a large problem with illegal dumping, he felt that there may be a data protection issue with sharing this information.

Cllr. Charity said the problem was county wide and suggested that the local authorities should consider providing a Local Authority waste collection Service.

Ms Higgins advised that any information on waste collection was held by the private waste collectors. She added that the litter bins in Claregalway were emptied twice a week and that litter bins sometimes encourage the dumping of rubbish bags at these locations.

Cllr. Charity asked when the summer road works programme would commence. He said that preparation works had taken place on some roads, particularly in Carrowbrowne village which had been delayed previously. Ms Higgins replied that while there was no schedule from the contractors, Carrowbrowne village is high on the works priority list.

Cllr. Herterich Quinn advised that the regeneration of market square Athenry has gone to public consultation and asked for as much input as possible from constituents. She also raised the issue of the need to reintroduce waste- water treatment plants in estates due to the inactivity of Irish Water in Athenry.

Cllr. Cronnelly asked for an update on the upgrade of the pipework in Athenry.

In response to a query by Cllr. Cuddy, regarding flooding on the road from Derrydonnell to Coldwood, Ms. Higgins said she would determine the location and examine the matter.

Cllr. Cronnelly requested an update on that the demolition of a derelict house at Bridge Street, Athenry for the next meeting.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the members had made a decision on the allocation of the €180,000 for their MD as a report had to be prepared for the Department shortly.

Cllr. Cronnelly fixed a date for the Annual General Meeting for Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Criochnaigh an Crinniú Ansin

Approved by

  
Cathaoirleach

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> Sept, 21