

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 in the Council Chamber Aras an Chontae , on Tuesday 13th July, 2021.

I LATHAIR:

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

OIFIGIGH: Mr G. Mullarkey, Director of Service
Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer,
Ms. P. Higgins, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. G. Cooley, Asst. Staff Officer

Cllr. Collins welcomed all present to the meeting, and acknowledged the hard work done by Cllr. Charity in his role of Cathaoirleach of Galway County Council over the last year, given the tough conditions he encountered due to the pandemic. Cllr. Collins wished the incoming Cathaoirleach Cllr. Peter Keaveney and the Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Jim Cuddy well in their new roles.

To confirm minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 11th May, 2021 via Teams

AMD 85

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Cronnelly, SECONDED by Cllr. Carroll the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 11th May, 2021 were AGREED.

Matters Arising

Cllr. Carroll welcomed the upcoming reinstatement works on the R443 which is due to commence on 18th July and will take approximately 2 months to complete. He acknowledged the support from Cllr. Cronnelly on this matter.

Cllr. Carroll advised the members that painting work had been carried out on certain premises in Oranmore, but there are other properties owned by people included in the "Rich List" which have not been painted and remain an eyesore in the town.

Cllr. Carroll also raised the issue of the resurfacing of the section of area at Renville Cemetery and Mr. Mullarkey replied that he would follow up with Environment section on this.

Cllr. Dolan thanked the Area Office staff on their commitment to solve the flooding problem at Gloves. He said that works had started at that location during the week, funded in part from notice of motion monies from Cllr. Dolan, Cllr. Herterich Quinn and Cllr. Cronnelly.

Cllr. Cronnelly asked for an update on the reply from Irish Water regarding the works to take place in Athenry town where Mr. Mitchell replied that the design is expected to be completed by 2022 and funding made available in 2022.

In reply to the query from Cllr. Cronnelly on the up- to- date status on Finn's derelict property, Mr. Mullarkey advised that a summons was served for a court date on 7th July, 2021. As no one attended court on behalf of the defendant, the case was adjourned until September.

In reply to a query from Cllr. Cuddy about trying to improve the appearance of the Central Tavern in Claregalway, Mr. Mitchell advised that a live planning permission is in place.

Cllr. Charity noted that his query on the fencing on the N84 was not included in the May minutes and asked for an up to date status on this issue. Cllr. Charity also queried the slow start in the roads programme, particularly on the Carrowbrowne road, which has been in bad disrepair for nearly 3 years.

Ms. Higgins advised that the roads programme is underway. She said that the overlay contractors were delayed but would be coming within the week to commence the overlay works and that the roads programme works would be completed on time.

Mr. Mitchell in his reply to the issue of the fencing on the N84 advised that the matter was still with senior management.

The following proposal was made by Cllr. Charity

That the Athenry Oranmore Municipal District refer the issue of fencing of a 300 m curtilage of the N84 Curraghline to the CPG for progression. The M D has been advised this project is on the Chief Executives desk for approval for some time.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Charity and SECONDED by Cllr. Collins the motion was AGREED.

To confirm Minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Annual General Meeting held on the 8th June, 2021.

AMD 86

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Cronnelly and SECONDED by Cllr. Cuddy, the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Annual General Meeting held on 8th June, 2021 were AGREED.

To confirm Minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on 8th June, 2021 AMD 87

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Cronnelly and SECONDED by Cllr. Carroll the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District meeting held on 8th June, 2021 were AGREED.

Matters arising

Cllr. Herterich Quinn asked when the works would commence on the projects funded by the allocations agreed on at the meeting of the 8th June, and in reply Ms. Higgins said that designs for certain projects were underway, but that the funding could be rolled over to 2022.

To elect a Member to represent the Athenry M.D. on the Corporate Policy Group. AMD 88

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Carroll and SECONDED by Cllr. Cuddy, it was AGREED that Cllr. Charity continue in his role of representative of the Athenry MD on the Corporate Policy Group for the upcoming meeting.

Directors Business AMD 89

Mr. Mullarkey advised that he had no business to discuss.

Cathaoirleach Business. AMD 90

Cllr. Carroll acknowledged the allocation of funding for seven schools in the county, five of which were in the Athenry M.D. under the Safe Route to School initiative which is being co-ordinated by the Green Schools co-ordinator. He said that he hoped the works could be completed while the schools were closed for the holidays.

Mr. Mitchell advised that the matter is between the NTA co-ordinator and the schools Boards of Management at present, and no works can take place until they revert to the County Council with cost estimates.

In reply to queries from the Council members regarding the traffic management scheme at Claregalway, Mr. Mitchell advised that the land acquisition negotiations were ongoing at present and were taking longer than anticipated to finalise as the land was not in the ownership of the OPW as previously thought. Cllr. Cuddy confirmed that the land was privately owned. Some of the members expressed their disappointment that a part 8 was passed on private lands and also asked when they could give more information to the residents and businesses in Claregalway. Mr. Mitchell advised that a part 8 was required to move the project along but once the land acquisition issue is resolved, the TII will be able to

give more information on the proposed works. He said that funding is committed for this scheme.

Mr. Mitchell also confirmed that traffic lights will not be installed initially when completing the new traffic plan but there will be ducting in place outside the Claregalway hotel to allow for installation of traffic lights if the need arises. This will take place after a safety audit has been carried out following the completion of the works. Mr. Mitchell also confirmed that a stone wall would be built outside the Lake view housing estate.

In reply to queries from Cllr. Cuddy on the progress of the pedestrian crossing at the Maldron Hotel, Oranmore and the Coast Road, Oranmore drainage, Ms. Higgins advised that she would provide an update. Ms. Higgins also went on to say that the works on the Coast road would take place in the 3rd quarter of 2021.

Cllr. Cronnelly had a query about the land acquisition of a parcel of land near the Presentation College Athenry to advance the link road, and Cllr. Herterich Quinn asked about the pedestrian bridge for Clarin College.

In reply, Mr. Mitchell advised that the TII were involved in the land acquisition needed for the link road, Athenry and that the provision of the bridge for Clarin College is under tender process at present, and once the contractor is appointed, it is hoped that works will commence as soon as possible.

Mr. Mitchell promised to follow up on a query regarding the ownership of a fence surrounding the Church of Ireland property in Monivea, which has collapsed allowing people to access the old structure which could be dangerous.

Cllr. Dolan also went on to condemn the racial abuse suffered by members of the English soccer team after the Euro finals.

Cllr. Charity advised that landowners along the river in Claregalway had been approached by representatives from Galway city carrying out a survey of the flood relief scheme, and no prior notice of same had been given.

Mr. Mitchell said he was not aware of this survey but he would contact Galway city council in relation to same.

A lengthy discussion then took place among the M D members, condemning the actions of Galway City Council members who proposed at a recent City Council meeting to allow a portion of Carnmore airport site be rented by a film industry group. This decision was made without any prior notification to the M D members, and the members felt it showed a disrespect to find out about the proposal from the media rather than be consulted in advance, given that the airport is located in their M.D. While they do not have any issue about leasing a part of the site, they were concerned that the masterplan which was to be agreed several years ago, was not available. The members also agreed that it would be a shame to lose Galway airport, and while there is not sufficient runway available to encourage the large aircraft carriers to the airport, they felt it would be put to good use for the flying club,

emergency services, air ambulance etc. It is expected that the issue will come before the full Council meeting later this month.

The following proposal was made by Cllr. Shelly Herterich Quinn

“In relation to the proposed motion on the Clar of the Plenary meeting , Athenry Oranmore MD members have sight of the motion and an opportunity to discuss and debate it before presentation at the Plenary meeting.”

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. Herterich Quinn and SECONDED by Cllr. Cronnelly the motion was AGREED.

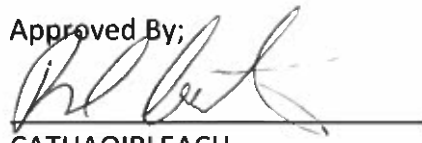
Cllr. Collins asked that car that went into the river at Lackagh be removed as a matter of urgency due to the fact that bathers have access to the car due to the low levels of the river at the moment, and there is a fear that someone could get trapped in the vehicle.

Ms. Higgins advised that following a risk assessment at this location, it was felt that it was too dangerous at the time to attempt to move the car, but she assured Cllr. Collins that she would investigate.

Cllr. Herterich Quinn thanked the Community and Enterprise section for their help in advancing the street scape scheme helping businesses to carry out refurbishments to their properties.

Criochnaigh an Criniu Ansin

Approved By;



CATHAOIRLEACH

Date:

