

**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 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

**To confirm Minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022** **AMD119**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Herterich Quinn SECONDED by Cllr Cuddy the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 were AGREED.

**Matters arising**

Cllr Herterich Quinn expressed her dissatisfaction with the response received from the Office of the Tanaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, in relation to her motion on the development of the Western Economic Corridor and the IDA lands in the Athenry Oranmore Municipal District. She said that there is valuable land in Athenry that needs to be developed.

In reply to a query by Cllr Cronnelly on the design layout for the relief road in Athenry, Ms Lowe said that the design work is ongoing. That work is proceeding at a faster pace in relation to the 'elbow' (near Raheen) and it is now intended that this element of the scheme

will proceed to CPO asap. The CPO documentation is being prepared and it is intended that this will be published before the end of this year. The design work is proceeding on the remainder of the scheme also, but the hydrological and hydrogeological conditions are more complex in that area and further work is needed to assess conditions and refine the design. Further liaison will be required with Irish Rail in relation to the railway bridge so expediting the 'elbow' will give more time to flesh out the design further east. Ms. Lowe confirmed she had met Department officials recently and that they remain fully committed to the project in its entirety.

Mr McGovern said that the IDA were invited to attend today's meeting but were unable to attend but will be in contact in relation to their attendance at a future meeting.

The Cathaoirleach asked that they be invited to the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

**Declaration of a Road to be a Public Road – Section 11 of Roads Act 1993**  
**AMD120**

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Report, including map which had been circulated to the Members and he read the Report to the meeting as follows:

**Municipal District: Athenry.**

**Description:**

**Stonehaven, Athenry, Co. Galway**

**Section A-C-B:** Road pavement and footpath commencing at public road L3107 at Point A and extending Northwest for a distance of 77m to point B in the townland of Ballydavid South,

**Section C-D:** Road pavement and footpath commencing at point C and extending Northeast for a distance of 39m to point D adjacent to House No 6 in the townland of Ballydavid South.

**Section C-E:** Road pavement and footpath commencing at point C and extending South West for a distance of 48m to point E adjacent to house No 1 in the townland of Ballydavid South.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Herterich Quinn, SECONDED by Cllr Cronnelly the Members AGREED the Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 as outlined in the Report.

**Declaration of a Road to be a Public Road – Section 11 of Roads Act 1993**  
**AMD121**

The Cathaoirleach referred to the Report, including map which had been circulated to the Members and he read the Report to the Meeting as follows:

**Municipal District: Athenry.**

**Description:**

Road commencing at junction with L7113 (E138753, N233934) in the townland of Cinn Uisce (Kiniska) and extending Southwest for a distance of 377m in the townland of Cinn Uisce (Kiniska) and finishing at (E138560, N233672) in the townland of Cinn Uisce (Kiniska).

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Cuddy, SECONDED by Cllr Herterich Quinn the Members AGREED the Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 as outlined in the Report.

**Municipal District Director's Business & Correspondence** AMD122

There was no item under this heading.

**Cathaoirleach's Business** AMD123

**The following proposal was made by Cllr Cuddy,**

*"I propose that the money raised by Galway County Council in development contributions should be used in the Municipal District in which they are raised. In other words the funding should be ring fenced."*

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Cuddy, SECONDED by Cllr Herterich Quinn the motion was AGREED.

The Members agreed that this matter will be raised at the plenary meeting of the Council.

Cllr Charity said that the issue of horses causing a risk to motorists on the N84 has not been resolved. He said that it is being proposed at the Housing SPC that bye-laws are passed stating horses should not be kept in the offending area. He said that the Roads Department have been in contact with TII requesting funding to fence the lands in the area but he understands that TII have refused to provide this funding. He said that he required clarification on this. Ms Lowe said that she will provide an update on this.

In reply to a query from Cllr Charity on the lack of priority being given to the N84 upgrade by the TII and the omission of the route between Menlough and Headford from the cycle greenway, Ms Lowe said that there were options nationally. The NTA has a separate office on cycle ways and are looking at a strategy for the County and submission can be made by the public and representatives. This is expected to take place in Autumn 2022.

Cllr Cronnelly enquired if the Council had a report on the impact of the fires on the Headford road.

Cllr Charity asked when the works in Annaghdown would be progressed and the Active Travel funding spent. He said that approximately 12,931 vehicles per day were using the road.

**The following proposal was made by Cllr Charity**

*"I propose that the Athenry-Oranmore MD write to the Minister for Finance calling for the introduction of a tax credit to be applied for the benefit of the general population to reimburse the windfall tax and VAT gains obtained by Government due to the ongoing hyper-inflation in fuel, consumer goods, construction and other produce. Such windfall to be determined by comparing identical tax and Vat period in 2019, and so as to recognise and compensate for the excessive increase in the cost of living. And that when passed this motion be sent to each Municipal District and City Councils calling on same to pass a similar proposal."*

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Charity, SECONDED by Cllr Cronnelly the motion was AGREED.

In reply to a query by Cllr Herterich Quinn in relation to a Hydrological study on the water levels for the Clarin river, Mr Whelan said that an application has been made to the O.P.W. but works have not commenced. Mr Whelan also informed the meeting that works on the motorway slip road will be completed in the coming weeks.

In reply to a query from Cllr Herterich Quinn for an update on the transport plans, Ms Lowe said the tender assessment process was completed and approval sought from the NTA to award the tender. She said that Oranmore is one of the initial locations for completion with Athenry in a second phase. Ms. Lowe said she would advise Councillors when the tender is awarded.

Ms. Lowe advised that applications for footpath upgrades could be made under the Active Travel Schemes.

In reply to a query on the grass cutting in the priory graveyard Mr Gavin said that he will examine the resources available.

In reply to a query from Cllr Carroll in relation to the motorway access slip lane at Athenry; Ms Lowe said that a derogation has been obtained from the Department of Transport to facilitate the laying of a standard on this surface.

In reply to a query on the pedestrian crossings in Oranmore Mr Whelan said that a road safety audit has been completed and it will now go to tender.

Cllr Carroll requested an update on the funding and expenditure for the various projects such as Active Travel and Town and Village Renewal and Climate action.

In reply to a query by Cllr Charity on Gort na Carraige, Corrandulla on the taking in charge of waste-water treatment plants, Ms Lowe said that private waste-water schemes are not generally taken in charge. Irish Water are not taking them in charge and the Council has very limited funding to operate and maintain additional private plants. Cllr. Charity asked if the estate could be taken in charge without the private plants being taken and Ms. Lowe said she would seek further information on this.

In reply to a query from Cllr Charity on footpaths at Annaghdown Mr Whelan said that works are going to tender next week.

Cllr Cronnelly asked that the findings on the Road Safety Audit at the new presentation school be circulated. Mr Gavin explained that the report has not been finalised.

In reply to a query from Cllr. Cronnelly on a road safety audit at the new Presentation College, Mr. Gavin said that the Council was replying to a few issues raised by audit.

**Any other business (AOB).**

**AMD124**

There was no item under this heading.

Criochnaigh an Crinniu Ansin

Approved by

Janeal Charity  
Cathaoirleach

Date: 13/9/2022

