

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 18th January, 2022**

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. M. Jordan, Administrative Officer.
Ms. G. Cooley, Asst. Staff Officer

The meeting commenced with a minute's silence for Aishling Murphy, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

To confirm Minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 19th October, 2021. **AMD102**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Carroll, SECONDED by Cllr Herterich Quinn the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 19th October, 2021 were AGREED.

To confirm Minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Budget Meeting held on the 2nd November, 2021. **AMD103**

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Cuddy, SECONDED by Cllr Dolan the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Budget Meeting held on the 2nd November, 2021 were AGREED.

Matters Arising

In reply to a query by Cllr Herterich Quinn on the sum of €45,000 in the code F0301 in the Athenry MD Budget, Mr Mullarkey said that he will clarify if this sum is available to the Athenry MD for Recreation and Amenity.

Ger Mullarkey clarified that as the Athenry MD budget was not passed the passing of the Statutory Budget includes the budget for the Athenry MD. He also said that if funding was allocated to a service area it was not possible to transfer this funding to another service. The increase to the funding was allocated to NOM and the Rates Incentive Scheme.

In reply to a query by Cllr Cuddy on cemeteries Mr Mullarkey said that this funding is provided for in the revenue account and is then transferred to the capital account and this fund provides for future extensions to cemeteries.

To confirm Minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 2nd November, 2021.

AMD104

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr Carroll, SECONDED by Cllr Herterich Quinn, the minutes of the Athenry Municipal District Meeting held on the 2nd November, 2021 were AGREED.

Matters Arising

In reply to a query from Cllr Cronnelly on the derelict site at Athenry, Mr Mullarkey said that this court case is adjourned until April, 2022.

Mr Mullarkey said that a reply had not been received in relation to the motion by Cllr. Charity on rural transport.

Mr Mitchell said that Coffee Construction had been appointed to carry out works on the footbridge at Clarin College. He said that the construction of the bridge will take place off site and the works will be completed by May, 2022.

Cllr Herterich Quinn said that she was in contact with the DoS for Community and Enterprise in relation to the Town Team and it is proposed to meet later this month or in early February 2022.

Municipal District Directors Business & Correspondence

AMD105

Mr Mullarkey said that the Rural Grant allocation had not been notified to Galway County Council but should be received in February 2022.

Mr Mitchell said that once notified the allocation will be brought to the Athenry MD Members in mid-February and to the plenary meeting at the end of February, 2022.

It was agreed that a meeting will be held in February to discuss the Roads Grants allocations.

In reply to a query on the Traffic Management Plan Mr Mitchell said that there were queries from a number of consultants and the time may need to be extended to deal with these. He said that these were standard queries.

In reply to a query from Cllr Carroll on the litter problem on the dual carriageway between Oranmore and the Galway Clinic, Ms Higgins said that the litter clean- up will be co-ordinated with grass and hedge cutting on the dual carriageway. She said that a traffic management plan had to be put in place when the contractors were on site.

Cllr Herterich Quinn said that in light of recent events in Tuallamore she was involved in the co-ordination of an educational programme in schools together with the Crime Prevention Officer Mick Walsh. Cllr Dolan supported Cllr Herterich Quinn and said that it was important that everyone should feel safe.

She said that she wished to thank the area office staff for the work carried out under the Active Travel Funding. She asked that future funding include additional lighting and pathways. She specifically requested that the area from Maryfield nursing home to Parc na hAbhainn be included for improved lighting. She also highlighted the problem of litter in Athenry town and requested a regular sweeping of the streets.

In response Mr Mitchell said that the requirements for Active Travel applications have been submitted for 2022 and a lot of the projects are phase two of last years projects.

Mr Mitchell said that in relation to the feasibility study for the greenway he will contact the TII directly.

Ms Higgins said that a litter survey will be carried out in Athenry town and there is currently a full-time road sweeper in the town.

In response to a query by Cllr Charity on the flooding and traffic management plan for Claregalway, Mr Mitchell said that there was still a difficulty in acquiring land and alternative solutions are being examined. He hoped to have an update at the next meeting. He said that the €1.3m is linked with traffic calming and the underground problems will need to be fixed first. He also, said that there is no requirement for another Part 8. He will check with the TII in relation to the N84 funding.

Cllr Cuddy asked if there was a date for the Claregalway Traffic Management Plan and said that the delay was unacceptable.

In response to a query raised by Cllr Cuddy in relation to the junction at Loughgeorge Mr Mitchell said that this junction was designed by the TII using design parameters to slow the traffic down. He said he was aware of the issues raised in relation to trucks turning at the junction. The safety engineer from TII has examined it and came back with minor signage changes. Cllr Collins said that he agreed that the junction was causing issues and requested that the staff talk to the TII as it is a matter of time before someone gets hurt.

In relation to a query on the O.P.W submission for flooding relief Mr Mitchell said that this is currently with the O.P.W. and he is expecting an update in a few weeks.

Cllr Cronnelly said that he would like to acknowledge all the work being done by the area office.

In response to a query by Cllr Cuddy on increased staffing levels for the area office Mr Mithchell said that the current budget did not allow for any increase.

Cllr Charity said that with a 15% increase in rates and no increase in staff reflected bad value for money.

Cllr Collins raised an issue at Annaghill where cars were driving onto the roundabout, and it was causing a lot of damage. Mr Mitchell said that the matter should be reported to the Gardai and he said that he would examine if remedial works could be done at the location. It may be located in the Tuam MD.

Mr Mitchell said that the CIS allocation has not been received but it will form part of the works programme.

Any other Business (AOB)

AMD107

The next meeting is scheduled for the 8th March, 2022. There will be a meeting scheduled in February, 2022 for the Roads Programme. The date will be determined.

Criochnaigh an Cruinniu ansin

Approved by



CATHAOIRLEACH

Date: 17/3/22