

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT BALLINASLOE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICE, COUNCIL CHAMBER, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2019 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. T. Broderick

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Cllrs. D. Connolly, M. Connolly, A. Dolan, D. Geraghty, P. Keaveney

**Oifigigh:** Mr. A. Farrell, A/Director of Services, Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Mr. E. Mulryan, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn, A/Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator.

A minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for the late Ms. Deirdre Gilchrist-Lyons, R.I.P former employee of Galway County Council.

**Resolutions of Sympathy**

Mrs. Margaret Gilchrist, Rehan, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co. Galway  
Conneely Family, Shannagh, Glenamaddy, Co. Galway  
O'Loughlin Family, Moylough Post Office, Moylough, Co. Galway

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019** MDB19057

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney.

**Matters arising from the Minutes**

In respect of MDB19052 Page 1 regarding the N63 Ballygar Traffic Calming Project, Cllrs. M. Connolly, Geraghty and Keaveney advised that progress had been made at the meeting held with Mr. Pender, Senior Engineer and Mr. Breathnach, Senior Executive Engineer of the National Road Project Office.

In response to Cllr. Dolan and with reference to MDB19052 Page 2, Mr. Farrell referred to the information email which he had circulated to the members with an update on projects taking place in Ballinasloe as part of Galway 2020, in particular the Small Towns Big Ideas Projects; the Livefeed Project and Druids Galway Tour. Mr. Farrell advised that Galway

2020 have issued an open call for people to be part of Galway's European Capital of Culture opening ceremony celebrations in Ballinasloe. Mr. Farrell also advised that discussion had taken place with Galway 2020 with regard to them engaging key stakeholders including Elected Members and businesses so that they can benefit from the programme and events taking place in Galway East in the programme.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly and with reference to MDB19052 Page 2 in respect of the R328 Moylough to Clonberne Road, Mr. Mitchell advised that the Council is awaiting the Post Works Road Condition Survey Report from Tara Mines. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Mitchell advised that under the Project Management System operated by the Roads and Transportation Department a survey has been carried out of all the public roads in the County.

With reference to MDB19054 Page 3, Cllr. D. Connolly asked for consideration be given in 2020 for additional funding to be provided for the Battle of Aughrim Visitor Centre.

In response to Cllr. D. Geraghty and with reference to MDB19052 Page 2, Ms. Gardiner advised that no response had been received to date from Mr. Gerry Costello of Community Alert.

In response to Cllr. Geraghty and with reference to MDB19057 Page 5, Mr. Mulryan stated that he would assess signage issues at junctions in Williamstown.

**To consider Part 8 Planning application to carry out works to an existing 16no. unit housing development at Bridge Court, Ahascragh, to reconfigure to an 18no. unit housing development. Proposals include the demolition of 10no. existing units and construction of 11no. new two bedroom dwellings on the same site; and 1no. one bedroom dwelling. The proposed works also include the renovation of 6 no. existing dwellings and the construction of a single storey extension to the rear of one existing dwelling. Proposals further include car parking, hard & soft landscaping, site clearance works, roads, footways, amenity facilities, public lighting, signage, connections to existing services and all ancillary site development works.** MDB19058

Cllr. Broderick stated that Mr. Michael Owens, Acting Director of Services, Housing had advised by email that it was not now intended to proceed with consideration of this proposal at this meeting.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS**

MDB19059

Mr. Mitchell stated that costings received for the provision of grass cutting in 11 private housing estates in Ballinasloe were much higher for 2020 when compared to costs for same in 2019. Mr. Mitchell stated that historically these 11 private housing estates had their open spaces cut by Ballinasloe Town Council and subsequently by Galway County Council where the works were funded by Councillors' Notice of Motion Monies. Mr. Mulryan explained that the service in 2019 was procured from June, 2019 onwards and that for 2020 the service costings are for the full season's grass cutting. Mr. Mitchell asked if the members wanted to continue to fund this service through Councillors' Notice of Motion

Monies for 2020. In response to Cllr. Dolan Mr. Mitchell advised that grass cutting in private housing estates in any of the other Municipal Districts is not paid for by Galway County Council and he explained that costs associated with grass cutting and landscaping is the responsibility of residents in the housing estates. Mr. Mulryan stated that the option for residents to organize and pay for this service in the 11 private estates was an alternative to the use of Notice of Motion monies to pay for this service. Cllrs. D. Connolly and M. Connolly expressed disappointment that Notice of Motion monies should be used for the provision of a service which had previously been undertaken by Ballinasloe Town Council. Cllr. Geraghty asked that consideration be given to a separate meeting being convened to discuss this issue.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS**

MDB19060

No business arising

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MDB19061

In response to Cllr. Dolan, Mr. Farrell advised that the closing date for applications for the Community Support Scheme 2020 was 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2020. Mr. Farrell explained that applications are invited from Community and Voluntary Groups for funding towards activities and events which benefit local communities throughout the County and support sustainable economic, community and cultural development. Mr. Farrell stated that this scheme could provide an avenue for support for the Christmas Lighting in Ballinasloe Town for next year if an application was submitted.

Cllr. Dolan asked if the free car parking being provided after 11 a.m. during Christmas in Ballinasloe could be monitored in order to ensure that the free car park spaces were being made available for Christmas shoppers and not being taken up by all day car parking.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mulryan stated that he would consult with Ryan Hanley Consultants in relation to street lighting levels at Dunlo Street, Ballinasloe.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly with regard to broken street lights at Castleblakeney, Mr. Mulryan asked Cllr. M. Connolly to provide specific details of same in order that a complaint could be logged with Electric Skyline Ltd. In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Mulryan stated that solar powered lights had limitations and that electric powered LED lanterns were the preferred option. Mr. Mulryan advised that a national retrofit of all public lighting was imminent and that this issue would be raised at the Plenary Council meeting at a later stage.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mulryan advised that he would assess footpaths at Deerpark.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard to the issue of possible discharges into the River Suck, Mr. Mulryan advised that he would refer same to Irish Water for investigation.

