

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 13TH APRIL 2022 AT 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. D. Connolly

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Cllrs. T. Broderick, M. Connolly, D. Geraghty,
P. Keaveney, Dr. E. Parsons.

Oifigigh: Mr. L. Hanrahan Director of Services, Ms. R. Lowe Senior Engineer, Mr. F. Fahey, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn, Executive Engineer, Mr. N. Morrissey, Executive Engineer, Mr. N. Raftery, Technician, Ms. A. Monaghan Staff Officer, Mr. E. Moloney, Meetings Administrator.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD 2ND MARCH 2022
MDB22017

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Broderick and seconded by Cllr. Keaveney and agreed.

Matters arising from the Minutes

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB22010 Page 1 in relation to works carried out by Iarnrod Éireann, Mr. Fahey advised that the Council was continuing to liaise with Iarnród Éireann on the matter. Cllr. Broderick re-iterated the road condition was dangerous and the matter needed to be resolved.

In reference to MDB22016 on page 5 Cllr. Keaveney queried the position regarding the Road Safety Inspection at Ballaghlea National School and Mr. Fahey stated he would follow up the matter with the Director of Services.

In reference to MDB22016 on page 5 Cllr. Geraghty raised again the matter of the cutting of verges and the damage being caused to mirrors on commercial vehicles in particular. Mr. Hanrahan stated that landowners retain the primary responsibility to trim trees and bushes on the verges. Cllr. Geraghty stated that many of the trees are outside walls on roadside ditches. Cllr. D. Connolly stated that most folios extend to the road centre. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that good work in this matter was done in his own area with the involvement of the local community council.

A number of members raised the matter of Garbally House MDB22013 and were supportive of any relevant role the Council could take in relation to the property. Mr. Hanrahan stated he would be making a site visit after Easter.

In response to Cllr. Parsons re a domestic violence refuge MDB22013 Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that he was continuing to liaise with Cope and Tusla in relation to the matter but that both bodies were currently increasingly engaged with the Ukranian refugee crisis.

In response to Cllr. Parsons and with reference to MDB22012 Page 2, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the issue of increasing the budget for Creagh Graveyard could be progressed via the 2023 Annual Budget process which would commence in September 2022.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD 9TH FEBRUARY 2022

MDB22018

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 9th February 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Broderick and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly and agreed.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD 16TH FEBRUARY 2022

MDB22019

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 16th February 2022 were proposed by Cllr. M. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. D. Geraghty and agreed.

In relation to page 50 of the circulated minutes and submission GLW C15-15 from Niamh and Shane Dolan, Cllr. T. Broderick submitted a map below clarifying the site to be re-zoned outside the Local Area Plan Boundary.

It was proposed by Cllr. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly and agreed that the map be forwarded to the Planning section by way of clarification in this matter.



Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads – Section 11 Roads Act 1993 and Schedule 14A of Local Government Act 2001 :

Road L-63062 commencing at it's junction with N-63 (564532, 748717) and extending northwards for approximately 150 meters in the townland of Marless to point (564991, 748572).

MDB 22020

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, the Council approved the declaration of the following road to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with: Road L-63062 commencing at its junction with N-63 (564532, 748717) and extending northwards for approximately 150 meters in the townland of Marless to point (564991, 748572).

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB22021

Mr. Hanrahan provided an update on the Councils response to the Ukrainian Crisis. Mr Hanrahan advised that Council staff were working alongside the Civil Defence at weekends in Calasanctius College, Oranmore where 75 emergency response beds had been provided. Mr. Hanrahan advised that residents were then moved to accommodation in community settings such as local hotels, reconfigured nursing homes etc. Mr. Hanrahan advised that all Ukrainian Refugees entering the County were being processed at City West Hotel and then moved to Local Authority Areas for emergency accommodation. Mr. Hanrahan advised that the suitability of available properties was being assessed centrally by Technical Staff at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Mr. Hanrahan and the members paid tribute to the work being done by the Council Staff and all other agencies to deal with the crisis.

Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Detailed Architectural Submissions for Dunlo Hill Project will be ready for assessment after 22nd April after which a design will be chosen. Cllr. D. Connolly asked that the connection to Eoin O'Tuairisc be recognized as part of this development.

Mr. Hanrahan advised that if someone on the Social Housing List is offered a property, then they should accept the offer. They should not expect to be offered a property on the turn-key site currently under construction across from Tesco.

Mr. Hanrahan advised that Ms. Ruth Mulhern, Toursim Officer will commence workshops on the 26th April on the County Galway Tourism Strategy and asked that the members engage with the process. Mr. Hanrahan commended the work carried out by BACD on the Ballinasloe Tourism Plan but advised that not all the projects in the plan would form part of the County Galway Tourism Strategy. Mr. Hanrahan strongly advised that submissions be made via the County Galway Tourism Plan process as this is the plan that will be funded via Failte Ireland.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB22022

No business arising.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS

MDB22023

Votes of Sympathy

The Shaughnessy Family, Garbally Demesne, Ballinasloe on the death of Kathleen Shaughnessy

The Ward Family, Hymany Park, Ballinasloe on the death of Eugene Ward

The Stankard Family, Oatfield, Cappataggle, Ballinasloe on the death of Sean Stankard
Bernie Mitchell, Kilbeg, Williamstown on the death of her brother Francis Conroy, Corrisluchta, Ballinlough.

The Naughton Family, Ballinlass, Mountbellew and the Heavy Family, Moyvilla, Oranmore, on the death of Baby Danny Naughton

Votes of Congratulations

The Ireland Women's Rugby Team in their victory against Italy at the Women's Six Nations
Matthew Devine for playing with the Ireland U'20's in their victory against France.

Heather Payne for playing with the Republic of Ireland Women's Team v Sweden

Aoife Donohue for her win in the Galway's All Ireland Senior Camogie Final victory over Cork in Croke Park

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB22024

The members paid tribute to Mr. Seamus Goldrick for his work over the years in the town and wished him well in his new role as Dog Warden.

The members paid tribute to Mr. Damian Mitchell for his work and wished him well in his new post in Housing.

The members welcomed Ms. Rachel Lowe and wished her well in her new post as Senior Engineer in the Roads Department.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Ms. Lowe advised that all panels for Technicians are now in place and that she would be making contact with Human Resources to get an update on the new Technician Role for Ballinasloe MD.

Cllr. Parsons welcomed the grant provided for the Ballinasloe Leisure Centre Playground.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Fahey advised that an ecologist was currently assessing locations for pollination areas and that he would revert back on same. In response to Cllr.

Parsons with regard grass cutting at Rathglass, Mr. Fahey advised that the Contract for grass cutting in the town was ongoing.

Following discussion, on the proposal of Cllr. Geraghty seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly the following resolution was agreed: "that the Government and Minister Eamon Ryan would withdraw the Regulation banning the sale of turf. It is in the interest of the people of rural Ireland as there is a serious energy crisis on our doorstep at this present time. Most people see this regulation as an act of lunacy. If this regulation is not reversed in the immediate future, it means the Minister Eamon Ryan is not fit for purpose, going against the rural people of Ireland. I call on him to resign his position immediately and allow for a minister to be appointed, who lives in the real world of rural Ireland and allow the people continue with the sale of turf for the people in our society who have no other source of fuel"

Cllr. M. Connolly expressed disappointment with the national allocation of €11 million for Local Improvement Scheme considering the number of schemes on hand. In response Ms. Lowe confirmed that €950,000 had been allocated to Galway County Council and that this would fund approx. 24 schemes. Ms. Lowe confirmed that there are currently 160 schemes on the list and that is why that have not re-opened the scheme for new applications as the backlog is too large. Cllr. M. Connolly expressed disappointment with the fact that the Scheme was promoted via Oireachtas Members while the Local Authority had not been notified of same. Cllr. P. Keaveney also agreed that the funding was very insufficient and would take ten years to clear the backlog.

Cllr. Keaveney asked that a focus be put on tackling illegal dumping.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Fahey advised that he would talk with the Environment Department regarding the issue of a Columbarium at Creagh Cemetery.

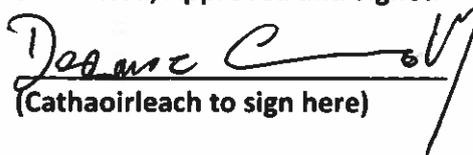
In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan confirmed as per Standing Orders, Meetings must take place in person or online and does not reference a hybrid of both. Mr. Hanrahan advised that issue is being looked at from all perspectives by Mr. Michael Owens, D.O.S.

Cllr. Geraghty advised that an event to promote Suck Valley Way was due to be held in the Abbey Hotel, Roscommon for anyone that could attend.

It was agreed that a decision on the date for the next Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would be postponed pending the progress on the County Development Plan meetings.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed


(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

25/5/2022

(Date)