

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Locha Riach *Municipal District of LOUGHREA*

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held at Loughrea Municipal District Office, 13th January 2020 @ 11 p.m.

LATHAIR:

Cathaoirleach

Cllr. P. Hynes

Baill:

Cllr's. G. Donohue, S. Curley, PJ Murphy,
G. Finnerty, J. Byrne, M. Kinane, I. Canning, M.
Maher, J. McClearn

Oifigigh:

Mr J. Cullen, Director of Services;
Mr. G. Haugh, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr. E. Gallagher, Senior Executive Engineer;
Mr F. McGillicuddy, Executive Engineer;
Mr. B. Sheehy, A/Executive Engineer;
Ms. Angela Quinn, Meetings Administrator
Ms. L. Cooney, Clerical Officer.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held on 9th December 2019

LMD 20001

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Loughrea held on 9th December 2019 were proposed by Cllr Maher, seconded by Cllr Finnerty and agreed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Arising from the Minutes and in response to Cllr. Byrne's concerns regarding recommendations made by the members at the previous meeting on the Record of Protected Structures, Mr. Cullen explained that only the Plenary Council could make changes to the Register of Protected Structures.

Cllr. Canning stated he received a positive response about the Life Boat for Portumna and looked forward to seeing the Life Boat back in working order in the near future.

In response to Cllr. Maher regarding the shortage of plots at Mountpleasant Burial Ground, Ms. Quinn stated it was believed there was enough plots available for 4 to 5 years but she will investigate further and revert to Cllr. Maher.

Flooding Update

LMD 20002

Mr. Enda Gallagher updated the meeting as follow:-

South Galway Gort Lowlands FRS – the OPW are currently considering detailed cost benefit criteria options for the South Galway scheme. The criteria put forward by the Project Team are unique to South Galway and a workshop with the OPW will be scheduled for the near future. Sensitivity testing of the model has now commenced, this involves the installation of 10% blockages on parts of the modelled network to identify those areas where blockages would cause most damage. The Environmental consultant is engaging with NPWS.

Dunkellin – the OPW only have minimal staff on site at present. They are undertaking accommodation works for effected land owners and minor bridge works on the Aggard River.

Regarding Dunkellin bridge, cladding proposals for the inside of the bridge are being advanced by the contractor. Costing and architectural approval will be considered when proposals are finalised. It is expected that the contractor should be completely finished all work on the Dunkellin bridge within the next two months.

Kinvarra – there has been no feedback from the OPW regarding the Individual Property Protection proposals that were submitted for Kinvarra. The OPW will be considering their decision in terms of the scheme nationwide and it may take some time for feedback to become available.

Directors Business

LMD 20003

Mr. Cullen stated that with the approval of the Councillors that the next Municipal District Meeting be provisionally booked for the 17th February 2020 to include for the Roadworks Programme and Minor Works Proposals.

Responding to Cllr. Kinane's concerns regarding the Stradbally East road, Mr. Haugh stated that roads previously included in the multi-annual roads programme for other Municipal Districts but which now fell within the Loughrea Municipal District would continue to be included in this year's roads programme.

Cathaoirleach's Business

LMD 20004

In response to Cllr. Maher's queries regarding funding for footpaths in Loughrea, Mr Haugh stated that funding may be available for footpaths in Loughrea under a RRDF grant but that the amount was not certain as of yet. In all other circumstances there is no funding available for footpath restorations unless supported by Councillors NOM funding.

In response to Cllr. Kinane's query with regards to Clarinbridge Graveyard, Ms. Quinn stated that she would enquire and revert. In reply to Cllr Kinane, Mr. Haugh stated that they hope to start the Maree footpaths in March. He stated that with regards to other footpaths they would be looking for NOM support.

In response to Cllr. Curley, Mr Haugh confirmed that roadmarkings at Mullagh N.S. would be re-installed.

Cllr. Finnerty stated that more awareness was needed regarding the dumping in his area .

In response to Cllr Canning, Mr Cullen stated representations could be made to Coillte regarding the trees at Forest Park, Portumna which are dangerous.

Cllr. Canning queried if extra CCTV could be located at the back of the County Council Offices as there has been an increase in antisocial behaviour at this location.

In reply to Cllr. Canning regarding the situation with placing ramps in housing estates Mr Haugh stated that ramps in housing estates were not usually recommended.

In response to Cllr. Donohue's request to have the road markings on the ramps at Mount Carmel Crescent upgraded, Mr Haugh stated that they would be done locally once a suitable weather window was available.

Cllr Byrne expressed disappointment with the performance of Electric Skyline, and Mr Haugh stated that he will follow up regarding delays with the company. Cllr. Byrne also stated that a recycling centre was an option as it would be of major benefit to South Galway.

Mr Cullen confirmed for Cllr. Maher that he would seek an update on the re-location of the Loughrea Fire Station.

Cllr's McClearn and Maher expressed their concern with public lighting charges and Mr Haugh clarified that the costs being discussed related to a specific project which involved civil works on a Regional road.

Cllr. Murphy stated that the Road at Cummins Kitchen to Roxborough is in a state of disrepair.

Volunteer Galway Deputation

Cllr. Donohue introduced Teresa Butler and Donacha Foley, Volunteer Galway and a power point presentation on the services they currently provide to County Galway. They are facing a lot of challenges in the rural communities. They do not have enough resources to provide a full service in Galway County due to limited funding.

Volunteer Galway are looking for the support of the members of Galway County Council to support their proposal to Minister Canney, where there is currently a National Strategy being developed. They will email their proposal to the Councillors who agreed to support them.

It was provisionally agreed that the next meeting of Loughrea MD would take place on Monday 17th February 2020.

CHRIOGHNAIGH AN CHRUINNIU ANSIN

**CLLR PAT HYNES
CATHAOIRLEACH, LOUGHREA MD**