

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY 2022 AT 12.30 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. D. Connolly

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

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

Oifigigh: Mr. L. Hanrahan, Director of Services; Mr. F. Fahey, A/Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. P. McLynn, Assistant Engineer; Mr. Brendan McDonagh, Executive Engineer; Mr. Niall Morrissey, Executive Engineer; Mr. Niall Raftery, Technician; Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer; Ms. A. Power, Senior Staff Officer; Mr. Brian Corcoran, Executive Planner; Mr. Brendan Dunne, Senior Executive Planner, Ms. Valerie Loughnane, Senior Planner; Mr. Andrew O'Halloran, Assistant Engineer; Mr. Daithi Flood, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. E. Moloney Meetings Administrator.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th December 2021 MDB22001

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 8th December 2021 were proposed by Cllr. Broderick and seconded by Cllr. Parsons and agreed.

Matters Arising:

Cllr. Broderick welcomed the confirmation of allocation of OPW funding for works at Lissard and Kilconnell.

Cllr. D. Connolly and M. Connolly welcomed the allocation of OPW funding for works at Clonfert and commended the technical staff in Ballinasloe in relation to the matter.

Cllr. M. Connolly commended the technical staff on work carried out on the Cloonkeenerrill Drainage Project.

Cllr. Parsons pointed out that the consultation period on the Ballinasloe spur of the greenway had been extended.

Cllr. Geraghty raised the issue of trees growing on the sides of roads and in particular the Williamstown to Dunmore road with lorries losing mirrors regularly.

Cllr. Geraghty informed the meeting that there was forum upcoming on the River Suck which would be an inter-agency forum and could be important to many aspects of the river and its hinterland.

Ballinasloe Local Area Plan C.E. Report – Initial Discussion on Procedural Matters

MDB22002

Cllr. Broderick queried the current position as regards the status of planning in Ballinasloe as the previous Local Area Plan had expired. Ms. Loughnane confirmed that in the interim period the County Development Plan would be relied on along with the expired Local Area Plan as that plan was the most recent statement of intent regarding planning in Ballinasloe.

Cllr. Keaveney stated that having sat through long sessions considering the County Development Plan recently he proposed the following motion to try and ensure that matters could be dealt with in an efficient manner in relation to the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan :

“That all motions, submissions and observations on the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan be in by 12p.m. on 7th Jan 2022.”

Seconded by Cllr. Geraghty.

A number of members raised a concern that by adopting the motion proposed by Cllr. Keaveney the members might then be prevented from bringing up motions subsequently in the matter of the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan and that the motion interferes with a statutory process for dealing with such matters.

Cllr. Parsons then proposed the following amended motion:

“That motions, submissions and observations on the BLAP will as much as possible be in before 12 pm on 7th Feb but motions which arise after that will be accepted during the process.”

Seconded by Cllr. Broderick

Following further discussion on the matter and in the absence of agreement the Cathaoirleach put the motions to floor by way of roll call:

In the matter of Cllr. Parsons motion:

In favour : Cllrs. Parsons, Broderick, M. Connolly
Against : Cllrs. D Connolly, Keaveney, Geraghty

As there was an equality of votes the Cathaoirleach utilised a casting vote against the motion and the motion was defeated.

In the matter of Cllr. Keaveney's motion :

In favour : Cllrs. D. Connolly, Keaveney, Geraghty

Against : Cllrs. Parsons, Broderick, M. Connolly

As there was an equality of votes the Cathaoirleach utilised a casting vote in favour of the motion and the motion was passed.

Mr. B Corcoran then gave a brief presentation on the Local Area Plan Process that had taken place to date including the public consultation and the availability of documentation. He confirmed that 40 submissions were received and from various classes of contributors from prescribed bodies to business interests to individuals.

The Chief Executives report had considered the submissions and outlined the response and must now be put before the members and the current stage of the process be completed by week beginning 21st Feb 2022.

Cllr. D. Connolly stated the Local Area Plan was an important document for Ballinasloe which was a market town with for example one of the largest marts in the west in the County and focus on such matter would be required on the members consideration of the plan.

It was agreed that a special meeting would be held on 9th February 2022 commencing at 1.30 p.m. to consider the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan C.E. Report.

Report under Part 8 of Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), proposal for development at Corralough, Williamstown, Co. Galway comprising of the demolition of an existing dwelling and the construction of a 5-bedroom dwelling, together with connection to existing services and ancillary site works – LA 12/21

MDB22003

Mr. Daithi Flood presented the report which described the demolition and rebuilding of a single rural house on the outskirts of Williamstown. He confirmed that the option of retrofit was considered but was not feasible due to the state of disrepair of the house. He confirmed two submissions were received, one local submission regarding the retention of trees and hedges one from the Development Applications Unit which did not raise any issue save a bat survey which was completed.

The Part 8 was then proposed by Cllr. Geraghty and seconded by Cllr. Keaveney and agreed.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB22004

Brendan McDonagh presented the latest update to the members on the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme i.e. Briefing Note No. 10 which has been circulated. The report outlined the summary of progress and other key dates including an upcoming consultation day on the emerging options. A presentation would be made to the members in relation to the emerging options once a suitable date was agreed. The update also included the revised programme which indicated construction to commence in 2026. Mr. McDonagh then went through various queries raised during the previous update and provided the responses received from the steering group.

The report was noted by the members with a general comment that in certain areas such as Station Road that if interim measures are not to be taken the local authority would need to be fully equipped at local level to deal with flooding incidents should they occur.

Mr. McDonagh advised that depending on the emerging option chosen it may be possible at construction stage to front load station road.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB22005

Cllr D. Connolly referred to anti-social behavior in Ballinasloe and urged that the Council would apply whatever resources it could to alleviate the problem and co-ordinate with other agencies. He further referred to the widely reported 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday and the fact that independence was not yet achieved, and he hoped it could be achieved in a peaceful, progressive and inclusive manner.

Mr. Hanrahan stated that the Council is applying resources in the matter of estate and tenancy management and that the anti-social behaviour was also town centered and that it would also be raised at the Joint Policing Committee.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS

MDB22006

Votes of Contratulations

All the members wished to send their congratulations to the Kilkerrin Clonberne Ladies football team for their All-Ireland win. Cllr. Keaveney advised he would be raising the possibility of a Civic Reception for the team at the next Plenary Council Meeting.

The members further congratulated the Ireland Ladies 7s rugby team and in particular Cllr. Parson's daughter Beibhinn on their recent excellent performance.

Votes of Sympathy

The Treacy Family, Clough, Gurteen, Balliansloe on the death of Noel Treacy
The Forde Family, Ballyhard, Glenamaddy on the death of David Forde

The Mulryan Moloney Families on the Death of Dr. Maeve Mulryan Moloney
The McHugh Family Croaghill Williamstown on the death of Anita McHugh
The Collins Family Moorefield Farm, Williamstown on the death of Frank Collins
The Moore Family, Kiltulla Glemaddy on the death of Vincent Moore
The Conneally Family, Ballyhard, Glenamaddy on the death of Cathy Conneally
The Donelon Family, Cashel, Gelnamaddy on the death of Liam Donelon
The Coughlan Family, Kilkerrin Road, Glenamaddy on the death of Marie Coughlan
The Brady Family, Kilkerrin Road, Glenamaddy on the death of Mary Brady
The Mee Family, Scotland, Glenamaddy on the death of Michael Mee

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB22007

Cllr. Broderick raised the matter of the unsatisfactory condition of the roadway adjacent to the railway bridge on the way to Lough Callow after the completion of works at the bridge by Iarnród Éireann. Mr. Morrissey confirmed he was in contact with Iarnród Éireann in relation to the matter.

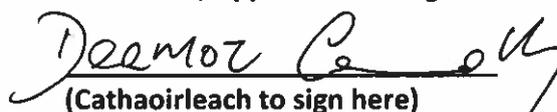
In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Fahey advised that the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report for the Glenamaddy Turlough had been completed by Ryan Hanley Consultants and he would forward on the Report for their information. Mr. Fahey advised that further studies would be needed before work could commence.

Cllr. Parsons welcome the funding announced for Active Travel.

It was agreed that that a special meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on **Wednesday, 9th January, 2022 @ 1.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber in Ballinasloe to consider the Ballinasloe Local Area Plan – Chief Executive's Report.**

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed


(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

2 - 3 - 2022
(Date)