

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 AT 2.30 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. D. Geraghty

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Cllrs. M. Connolly, D. Connolly, D. Geraghty, P. Keaveney and E. Parsons.

**Oifigigh:** Mr. L. Hanrahan Director of Services, Ms. R. Lowe, Senior Engineer, Mr. D. Troy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. M. Melody Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. E. Murphy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. A. Brogan Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Monaghan Staff Officer, Ms. A. Spelman, Meetings Administrator

Cllr. P. Keaveney thanked all the members and staff of Galway County Council for their support and kind words following the passing of his mother.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.**

**MDB23049**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. Parsons.

**Matters arising from the Minutes.**

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he had requested an update on the status of the Ballinasloe Regional Water Supply from the Director of Services Infrastructure, Operations Fire and Emergency.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the CCTV audit was ongoing. Mr. Hanrahan updated the members on the status of the current equipment, the data concerns and the funding required to bring CCTV up to standard.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Tourism Officer had been appointed and that the recruitment of the Tourism Activator for the Just Transition Fund

was ongoing. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he had asked Gail Tormey to put ideas down on paper with regard Garbally House and that Galway County Council were available to meet with all community groups/persons to discuss projects and ideas. Cllr. M. Connolly welcomed the assurances that all voluntary groups would be welcomed to discuss projects.

In response to Cllr. Parsons with regard the modular homes in Ballinasloe, Mr. Hanrahan advised that Galway County Council had advised the OPW and Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth of their land bank, allowed access to land, communicated with setting up meetings, commented on what the Council wanted in the long term for the site and made comments on design. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Ukrainian Response project in Ballinasloe was covered by National Emergency Legislation. Mr. Hanrahan advised that these issues would be discussed further that day with their organized meeting between members and Department Officials.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan, and Cllr. D. Connolly advised that it was agreed via the Corporate Policy Group that Civic Receptions for individuals would be held at Municipal District level in the future.

Cllr. D. Connolly asked that restricted access for residents in Ard Mhuire and Garbally Drive be introduced over October Fair weekends going forward.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Ms. Lowe advised that the re-design of the Bus Shelter was ongoing, and this re-design was necessary to secure NTA Funding. Ms. Lowe advised that a new member of staff was to be appointed to deal with Bus Shelters throughout the County.

In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he had not received confirmation from Ger Costello and Mick Walsh of a date to attend at Ballinasloe Municipal District Meeting.

Cllr. Geraghty asked for an update on the Winter Service Plan.

**INFORMATION SESSION WITH MR. MIKE MELODY, ENVIRONMENT SECTION ON THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR POOLBOY AMENITY PARK**

MDB23050

Mr. Melody presented an update on the Poolboy Amenity Park and advised that a Public Consultation Evening would be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

The members thanked Mr. Melody for his presentation. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Melody advised that funding was available to provide continuous remediation at the site. Mr. Melody advised that the development of the park would be supplemented with funding via the Landfill Remediation Fund and external funding schemes. Mr. Melody advised that he would provide an update on the Landfill Remediation Fund to the members. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Melody advise that the first phase was to develop a design and then costings would be provided for both the capital aspect of the

project and the operations aspect of the project. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Melody advised that the reed beds project was proposed as a back-up plan for the project but were not now needed as leachate was being pumped to the Ballinasloe Wastewater Treatment Plant. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Melody advised that the project will be subject to Environmental Impact Assessments and this in turn will determine if the project will be subject to a Part 8 application or a Section 10 application which will mean Bord Pleanala adjudication. Cllr. Parsons advised safeguarding the development of the Eco Park and welcomed the benefits to the community. Mr. Hanrahan advised that this was just the start of the process which would lead to an overall design. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Melody advised that the levels of leachate are decreasing year on year. Cllr. Geraghty suggested that a solar farm could be placed on the grounds.

**CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PARK 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – 2006 (AS AMENDED) – 8 NO. UNIT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT GARBALLY DEMESNE, ST. JOSEPH’S BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY** MDB23051

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, the Council approved the Part 8 for the 8 No. Unit Housing Development at Garbally Demesne, St. Joseph’s Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

**CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PARK 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – 2006 (AS AMENDED) – 13 NO. UNIT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT DUNLO HILL, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY** MDB23052

On the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Keaveney, the Council approved the Part 8 for the 13. No. Unit Housing Development at Dunlo Hill, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR’S BUSINESS** MDB23053

Mr. Hanrahan provided an update on the County Galway Tourism Strategy 2023–2031 and advised that it is due to be brought before the members at the November/December plenary meeting.

Mr. Hanrahan provided an update on housing projects in the County. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the houses in Ahascragh are going through final snags and project should be completed end 2023. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the County Architect was working on the housing project in Moylough.

Mr. Hanrahan advised that the members were invited to attend the Ballinasloe People of the Year Awards.

Mr. Hanrahan congratulated Williamstown Tidy Towns on winning national winner of the Heritage Award and thanked Cllr. Geraghty and Marie Mannion for attending with the Williamstown Tidy Towns Committee.

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

**MDB23054**

Cllr. Geraghty expressed concern at the length of time persons must wait to do a driving test. Cllr. Geraghty, M. Connolly and Keaveney agreed that driving should form a part of transition year subjects.

Cllr. Geraghty asked that all Members support the Galway Ring Road Project.

Cllr. Geraghty asked that the issue of flooding in the Municipal District be assessed, and that focus should be put on the dredging, cleaning of rivers, and drains in the County. Cllr. M. Connolly asked that previous Minor Works Schemes which had not been approved be re-assessed. Mr. Lowe asked that specific projects and locations be provided to MD Engineering Staff for investigation. Cllr. Parsons asked that the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme be expedited.

Cllr. Geraghty asked that height levels of hedge cutting be increased to protect mirrors of lorries.

Cllr. Geraghty stated that the previous Joint Policing Committee Meeting had been very productive.

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS**

**MDB23055**

**Vote of Sympathy**

The Morgan Family Bracklagh, Ballymoe  
The Conneran Family Kilcooley, Ballymoe  
The Stephens Family Furnhill, Kilkerrin Ballinasloe  
The Lyons Family Ballyhiague Ballymoe  
The Keavney Family Bushtown, Glenamaddy  
The Fahy Family Curries, Ballymoe

**Vote of Congratulations**

Congratulation to Aoibheann Reilly, Béibhinn Parsons and Méabh Deeley on competing at the WXV Rugby Series Tournament in Dubai.

Congratulation to Skehanagh/Mountbellew-Moylough on winning the 2023 County Junior A Final.

Best of luck to Kilkerrin/Clonberne on their upcoming Connacht Final.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MDB23056

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Ms. Lowe advised that she would provide an update on noise mapping on the M6 Ballinasloe.

In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan advised that access had been agreed by the HSE to assess the Nurses Home for site investigation. Mr. Hanrahan advised that no response had been received from the HSE with regard status of St. Brigid's Hospital. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Hanrahan advised that there would be severe financial implications if Galway County Council were to take the site into ownership via Derelict Sites legislation.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Ms. Lowe advised that she would provide an update on footpaths at Deerpark, Ballinasloe.

Cllr. D. Connolly advised that a solidarity vigil for Palestine would take place in Galway and that it be supported. All the members expressed concern about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on the Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm.

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved and Signed

  
(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

13-12-2023  
(Date)

