

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 AT 2.30 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. E. Parsons

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

**Baill:** Cllrs. T. Broderick, M. Connolly, D. Connolly, D. Geraghty, P. Keaveney,

**Oifigh:** Mr. L. Hanrahan Director of Services, Ms. R. Lowe Senior Engineer, Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineers, Mr. F. Fahey Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. E. Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Mr. P. Batty Executive Engineer, Mr. N. Raftery Technician Grade 1, Ms. A. Monaghan Staff Officer, Ms. A. Spelman Meetings Administrator.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022** MD822082

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. D. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. Geraghty.

**Matters arising from the Minutes**

No matters arising

**PRESENTATION ON THE InPLACE PROJECT IN THE MOUNTBELLEW AREA** MDB22083

Dr. Karen Keaveney and Ms. Eva Hamilton presented the InPlace Project in the Mountbellew Area. Dr. Keaveney advised that the aim of the plan is to quantify and map the scale of pre and post covid commuting in various towns in the country and to examine good practice examples of place-based interventions that promote more resilient and sustainable communities. Dr. Keaveney advised that Mountbellew was selected for the research project based on analysis of 2016 Census data which showed over 20% of the population commute more than 45 minutes to work, college or school and that over 40% of housing in the area has been built since 2000. The members thanked Dr. Keaveney and Ms. Hamilton for their presentation and all agreed that Mountbellew was a thriving

community with lots of local business in the village. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Parsons, Geraghty, Broderick, Dr. Keaveney advised that the issue of inadequate wastewater treatment system for smaller towns and villages was hampering further development of Mountbellew and similar towns and would form part of their final report. Cllr. M. Connolly stressed the need for improved broadband in the Mountbellew district. Cllr. Parsons advised that the lack of appropriate wastewater treatment system is hampering the development of a hotel or B&B in the town. Cllr. D. Geraghty asked that the issue of additional resources for rural Garda Stations be addressed to combat rural crime. Cllr. Keaveney welcome the presentation which while focusing on a small number of villages in the country, was to be used as a template for developing all rural towns and villages. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Dr. Keaveney advised that the study was being done in conjunction with Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Local Government Management Agency and the Office of the Planning Regulator. Cllr. D. Connolly commended the connectivity to Galway via Woodlawn Station. Cllr. Broderick stressed the need for remote working to be retained to strengthen local towns.

**DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS – SECTION 11 ROADS ACT 1993 AND SCHEDULE 14A OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001**

MDB22084

On the proposal of Cllr. Geraghty seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly, the Council approved the declaration of the following roads to be a public road, the statutory procedure having been complied with:

**Treanrevagh, House No. 1 to 11 – Points A to B on Taking in Charge Map**

Road commencing at Point A at its junction with the N63 -336 and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of approximately 70m to a point adjacent to Treanrevagh House No. 1, then in a southerly direction for a distance of approximately 58 meters to a point adjacent to Treanrevagh House No. 7 and then in a south easterly direction for a distance of approximately 21 meters to a point adjacent to Treanrevagh House No. 5 for a total distance of 151m (all in the Townland of Treanrevagh).

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

MDB22085

Mr. Hanrahan, Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Murphy presented an update on housing projects at St. Joseph's and Dunlo Hill. The members thanked the officials for their presentation. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and Parsons, Mr. Fahey advised the flooding issues at St. Josephs will be addressed when work commences at the location. In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the naming of development at Dunlo Hill would be done via the Place Name Committee. Cllr. Parsons asked that a plaque recognizing Eoin O'Tuairisc would be incorporated into the building. Cllr. M. Connolly welcomed the project at Dunlo Hill which would provide a facelift for that part of the town. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Conservation Order at Dunlo Hill is only on external structures.

Ms. Lowe presented an update on winter maintenance and thanked all the staff involved. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Ms. Lowe advised that Galway County Council's priority is on the salting of National Routes and strategic Regional Routes and that there is limited funding for salting outside of these routes. Ms. Lowe asked that members let her know of specific routes of concern. Ms. Lowe advised that Galway County Council were considering a pilot project of making salt available to local communities and this was being assessed. In response to Cllr. Keaveney and Parsons, Mr. Fahey advised that the outdoor team in Ballinasloe MD had focused on salting of main streets in the town along with footpaths and they did not salt any housing estates. Cllr. M. Connolly urged a cautionary approach so that the public would not become confused as to whether roads would be salted. Mr. Hanrahan agreed that there will always be a limited response to winter maintenance and that the public should always approach routes with caution. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Fahey advised that the river levels were being assessed on a continuous basis. Cllr. Geraghty welcomed the work carried out by Council Staff and that a focus be kept on ensuring local knowledge is not being lost when staff leave Galway County Council. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Batty advised that tenders had been received for consultants to design a Flood Relief Scheme in Clonfert and it was expected that Consultants would be appointed within the next few weeks.

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

**MDB22086**

Cllr. Parsons congratulated Galway County Council staff, Ballinasloe Tidy Towns and local Community Employment Scheme after Ballinasloe Town had gone from 24<sup>th</sup> place to joint 13<sup>th</sup> place out of 40 towns and cities inspected and retained the standard of being "Clean to European Norms". Cllr. Parsons asked that the use of CCTV to tackle illegal dumping be fast tracked.

Cllr. Parsons welcomed the sustainable gardening course which was held in Laurencetown and which had great public interest.

Cllr. Parsons welcomed the amenity park proposed following the remediation of Poolboy Landfill.

Cllr. Parsons stated that she would be bringing before the plenary Council the issue of disability spaces in Galway being painted blue.

Cllr. Parsons asked that Irish Water provide an update to the members on capacity for wastewater treatment and drinking water in Ballinasloe.

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS**

**MDB22087**

**Vote of Sympathy**

The Hegarty Family on the death of Rita Hegarty, Glenamaddy

The Hanly Family on the death of Mary Josephine Hanly, Williamstown.

The McNamara Family on the death of Finbar McNamara, Ballymoe  
The Kelly Family on the death of Nancy (Anne) Kelly, Ballygar  
The Silke Family on the death of David Silke, Glinsk  
The Devaney Family on the death of Eugene Devaney, Menlough  
The Naughton Family on the death of John Naughton, Ballinamore Bridge  
The Finnerty Family on the death of Martin Finnerty, Ballinamore Bridge  
The Geraghty Family on the death of Peggy Geraghty, Ballygar  
The Quinn Family on the death of Kate Quinn, Ballinamore Bridge  
The Goaley Family on the death of Fr. Michael Goaley, Glenamaddy  
The Heavey Family on the death of Bryde Heavey, Ballygar  
The Farrell Family on the death Jim Farrell, Corlackin, Creggs  
The Mellody Family on the death of Eileen Mellody, Guilka, Menlough  
The Morley Family on the death of Mary Morley, Lissavruggy, Newbridge  
The Mellody Family on the death of Larry Mellody, Ballinamona, Menlough  
The Murphy Family on the death of Loretta Murphy, Ballybane, Ballinlough, Roscommon  
The Heneghan Family on the death of John Heneghan, The Walk, Roscommon Town  
The Griffin Family on the death of Michael Griffin, Ballymoe  
The Rourke Family on the death of Jim Rourke, Creggs  
The McDonagh Family on the death of Roy McDonagh, Coololla, Aughrim  
The Ward Family on the death of Joe Ward, 83 Hymany Park, Ballinasloe  
The Naughton Family on the death of Sean Naughton, Hymany Park, Ballinasloe  
The Burke Family on the death of Jim Burke Kilgarve Gardens, Creagh

#### **Vote of Congratulations**

Ard Scoil Mhuire on winning their Connacht PPS Senior C Camogie title

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MDB22088

Cllr. D. Connolly welcomed works that were carried out at Caher Cross and thanked engineering staff for prioritizing works.

Cllr. T. Broderick asked that Cappagtaggle Cross be assessed for safety upgrades.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Hanrahan advised that stray horses/ponies can only be brought to the Ballinasloe Pound if on public road. He advised that strays can be taken from private land with landowner agreement.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Ms. Lowe advised that a Review of Speed Limits will be undertaken later in 2023.

In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he would revert to the members with an update of when a member of the Ballinasloe MD will form part of the Joint Policing Committee. Cllr. Geraghty and all the members expressed concern at the number of burglaries in the district. Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. E. Parsons seconded by Cllr. Geraghty, the following resolutions was agreed "I propose that the Ballinasloe

Municipal District Council writes to the Minister of Justice and the Garda Chief Superintendent to request that additional policing manpower and policing resources including Garda vehicles are deployed to this area in East Galway to deal with the upsurge in crime, lawlessness, drug crime and to deter crime, apprehend criminals and to reassure the local urban and rural population”.

In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Fahey advised that Glenamaddy Turlough risk assessments were still ongoing regarding possible flooding downstream. In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Fahey advised that local landowners will be contacted regarding access to sluice gates.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Ms. Lowe advised that she would be writing to the Department of Transport requesting additional funding following on from severe weather events last Summer and this Winter.

In response to Cllr. Keaveney, Mr. Fahey advised that ongoing general maintenance was being carried out on culverts. He asked that details regarding specific problem locations be relayed to him.

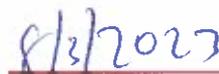
It was agreed that the February Monthly Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 @ 2 pm.**

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

**Submitted, Approved and Signed**



**(Cathaoirleach to sign here)**



**(Date)**

