

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON 20th JULY, 2022 at 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Dr. Evelyn Parsons

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

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

Oifigigh: Mr. L. Hanrahan Director of Services; Mr. R. Lowe, Senior Engineer; Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer; Mr. E. Monahan, Technician, Mr. E. Moloney Meetings Administrator.

Before commencing the business of the meeting the Cathaoirleach wished to extend her congratulations to the Galway Minor footballers who won the all Ireland and wished every success to the Seniors and hoped that as the County Town, Ballinasloe would have a major role to play in the homecoming. She further wished every success to the Ladies Minor Team in the All Ireland Final.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD 22ND JUNE 2022 MDB22044

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 22nd June 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Geraghty and seconded by Cllr. Broderick and agreed

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD 22ND JUNE 2022 MDB22045

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 22nd June 2022 were proposed by Cllr. Broderick and seconded by Cllr. Geraghty and agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. D. Connolly asked for an update on the footpaths at St. Josephs and Ms. Lowe advised that an update could be given at the next meeting or he could contact the Ballinasloe office direct about the matter.

Cllr. Broderick asked for details of what business were funded under the new nighttime initiative. He further asked for clarification on illegal parking and whether as a goodwill gesture some cleanup assistance could be given. Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that the nighttime initiative was administered directly by the Department and he had no information on same. He confirmed that the Council will act on illegal parking on Council property and engagement with the Gardaí takes

place along with environmental enforcement. Ms. Lowe said she would look into the matter of assisting with a clean up.

Cllr. Geraghty welcomes the verge trimming and asked if it could commence earlier next year. Ms. Lowe said it was dependent of the availability of funds and resources and it was a balancing act within the context of the roads programme.

All the members welcomed the new technician to the area Mr. Eoin Monaghan.

STAFFING UPDATE

MDB22046

Mr. Hanrahan gave a brief synopsis of the staffing within the Municipal District and confirmed that currently there were only two vacancies – 1 Executive Engineer and 1 General Operative.

All the members expressed frustration at the level of staffing and while vacancies may be low the problem was the overall staff complement which they felt was much reduced on previous levels and insufficient to deliver the services needed in the Municipal District which was a much bigger area than the old UDC area. It was acknowledged that the basic issue was the overall under funding of the Council in comparison to other local authorities.

Ms. Lowe confirmed there was currently 100% employment in the technical area and it was difficult to recruit replacement staff but the Council would continue to press for more staff to be funded under schemes such as Active Travel to ensure delivery of the programmes.

BALLINASLOE FAIR 2022 – UPDATE

MDB22047

Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that the appointment of an Event Co-ordinator was at an advanced stage and that normal planning and licencing was proceeding as was engagement with the Fair and Festival Committee. He further confirmed that the Arts and Heritage officers were meeting to design a programme for the event.

Cllr. Broderick queried whether there would be an event held with twinned towns and Mr. Hanrahan confirmed there would.

A number of members queried whether a permanent memorial could be erected whether it be a plaque or a stone seat for example. Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that suitable sites would be assessed in the fairgreen area.

CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED) – CONSTRUCTION OF 8 NO. HOUSING UNITS AT BALLYMOE CO. GALWAY (REPORT ATTACHED).

MDB22048

Mr. Mitchell presented the report which involved the construction of 8 adaptable homes to the south side of Ballymoe and also include some road improvement works. The site was well located and well served with schools and was close to the village centre. He hoped to see tenders advertised in September with delivery at end of 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. Keaveney and agreed to accept the report.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTORS BUSINESS

MDB22049

Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that the consultants were continuing with final design on the Dunlo development.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB22050

Cllr. Broderick said he wished to bring forward a motion in relation to item GLW 15-15 of the Local Area Plan. Mr. Hanrahan confirmed that legal papers had been received that morning in relation to the Local Area Plan and that he had not had time to read them and asked for the motion to be deferred until he appraised himself of the details. Cllr Broderick agreed but said he would be bringing the matter up again at the next meeting.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS

MDB22051

Congratulations

St. Grellans G.A.A.
Ballinasloe Junior Camogie

Sympathy

The family of Willie Donnellan, Culliagh Ballinasloe
The family of Bridget Gleeson, Castletown, Kilkerrin
The family of Mary Ward Friaryland, Creggs, Co. Galway
The family of Matt Gavin, Boherbannagh, Newbridge, Ballinasloe
The Quinn family Marnell's Grove, Ballymoe on the death of Mary Scanlon
The family of Helen Mitchell, Kilcroan, Ballymoe
The family of Brian Donnellan, Moylough,
The family of Archie Naughton, Racecourse Road, Roscommon

A.O.B.

MDB22052

It was proposed by Cllr. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr . M. Connolly and agreed that the delegation from the Ballinasloe Town Hall Theatre eb deferred until the next monthly meeting.

Cllr. D Connolly expressed the hope that the Galway senior football team would stop in Ballinasloe as it was a long standing tradition that homecomings included a stop in Ballinasloe and Mr. Hanrahan confirmed the Council would engage positively with the GAA in relation to their requirements.

Cllr. D. Connolly also acknowledged the 100 year anniversary of the death of Thomas Hartigan who was a free state soldier killed in Ballinasloe during the Civil War.

Cllr. Broderick expressed his disappointment at the news that AIB was to withdraw cash facilities and that not everyone was able to operate on-line and felt the move was a very unfortunate step by AIB

Cllr. D. Geraghty express the view that there should be someone from the MD on the Joint Policing Committee and that the issue of the extreme scarcity of Gardaí in rural areas of north east Galway needed to be highlighted. All the members concurred with this view and felt that elderly people were frightened in their homes.

It was proposed by Cllr. Parsons and seconded by Cllr. Keaveney and agreed that the next meeting would be held on 21st September 2022 and 2 p.m. and it would be preceded by a Deputation from the Ballinasloe Town Hall Theatre at 1.30 p.m.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

21/9/2022

(Date)