

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 26th of July 2023 AT 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. D. Geraghty

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

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

Oifigigh: Mr. L. Hanrahan Director of Services; Ms. R. Lowe Senior Engineer, Mr. F. Fahy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. Batty Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Mr. N. Raftery Technician Grade 1, Ms. E. Murphy Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. D Mitchell Senior Engineer, Mr. A. Brogan Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Spelman Meetings Administrator, Mr. B. McDonagh Executive Engineer, Mr. D. Mitchel Senior Engineer. Ms. M. Flynn Administrative Officer and Mr. M. Molloy Assistant Environmental Awareness Officer.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th OF JUNE 2023

MDB23027

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 14th 2023 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. P. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th OF JUNE 2023

MDB23028

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 14th 2023 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. P. Keaveney and seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly.

Matters arising from the Minutes

Cllr. D. Connolly expressed concern about a possible deficit of services due to the industrial action within Fire Services. Cathaoirleach D. Geraghty and Cllr. P. Keaveney also expressed their concerns.

In response the concerns in relation to industrial action within the Fire Services, Mr. Liam Hanrahan advised that national level contingencies were in place and that discussions were taking place at both local and national level.

CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001-2006 (As Amended) - 8 NO. UNIT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT GARBALLY DEMESNE, ST JOSEPH'S BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY (Part VIII Chief Executive's Report Attached)

MDB23029

A presentation was given by Ms. Eithne Murphey Senior Executive Engineer, Housing, in relation to the 8 no. Unit Housing Development at Garbally Demesne, St Joseph's Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Mr. Liam Hanrahan stated that it was a well-designed development aimed at delivering A-Rated houses in a well-planned mixed development. Cllr D. Connolly stated that there was a long-established community at the location and queried were there any submissions? Ms. Eithne Murphy responded that there were no submissions. Cllr. D. Connolly highlighted the importance of incorporating any issues into the design of the development.

Cllr D. Connolly proposed the Part 8, and this was seconded by Cllr. P. Keaveney.

CONSIDER REPORT UNDER PART 8 OF THE PANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001-2006 (As Amended) 13 NO. UNIT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT DUNLO HILL, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY (Part VIII Chief Executive's Report Attached)

MDB23030

Mr. Liam Hanrahan introduced the project as a high-quality development aimed at bringing a long-awaited redevelopment to a derelict site incorporating Dooleys pub as a protected structure.

A presentation was given by Ms. Eithne Murphey Senior Executive Engineer, Housing, in relation to the 13 no. Unit Housing Development at Dunlo Hill, Ballinasloe Co. Galway. Ms. Eithne Murphy confirmed that there were no submissions in relation to the development.

Cllr D. Connolly proposed the Part 8, and this was seconded by Cllr. P. Keaveney.

Cllr. M. Connolly welcomed both projects especially Dunlo Hill as part of Ballinasloe town regeneration. Cllr. D. Connolly welcomed the delivery of town houses back to the community and expressed his delight that the Council progressed the project and gave thanks to all involved. Cllr E. Parsons congratulated all involved in the project, stating that it was an eye sore awaiting regeneration and looks forward to seeing project progression. Cllr. E. Parsons queried vehicular access to the development and whether the name 'O'Tuairisc' could be incorporated into this heritage project. Cathaoirleach D. Geraghty stated it was wonderful news for Ballinasloe, that the development will enhance the town and thanked all those involved. Ms. Eithne Murphy responded to the query on vehicular

access and stated that there was pedestrian access and that there were 2 no. mews units with no vehicle access.

APPROVAL OF LITTER MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023 -2025

MDB23031

Mr. Mark Molloy and Ms. Maria Flynn from the Environment Section presented the Litter Management Plan to the Councillors.

Cllr. M. Connolly queried the efforts to mitigate against dog fouling. Ms. Maria Flynn outlined the details of the anti-dog fouling campaign which encourages the public to be more aware and Mr. Mark Molloy stated the campaign empowers people to make use of bags. Cllr E. Parsons queried if there was a policy for replenishing bags? Mr. Mark Molloy stated that the bag dispenser locations are checked on a regular basis. Cllr. T. Broderick there are litter issues. Cllr. P. Keaveney queried the prosecution rate in relation to littering. Ms. Maria Flynn stated that the new campaign creates awareness and addresses complaints. Cllr E. Parsons acknowledged the hard work of the Environment Section. Cllr T. Broderick stated that a clean-up is not an anti- dumping initiative and that cold calls to houses should be considered as part of the project, incorporating fines to the offenders. Mr. Mark Molloy outlined that the Green Schools Initiative is an awareness programme that emphasizes the awareness of littering, he also stated that civic amenities are a great asset and that all complaints on illegal dumping are followed up and requested that the Cllrs send any specific issues onto the Environment Section. Cathaoirleach D. Geraghty emphasized the importance to work with people perhaps by installing temporary signs to create awareness and that the more civic amenities are required for the smaller towns, he also stated that illegal dumping on private land in rural locations needs to be tackled. Mr. Mark Molloy spoke about the National Spring Clean that takes place in rural areas. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that dereliction is a problem and Cllr. E. Parsons queried the possibility of adding St. Bridget's to the derelict sites register.

Cllr E. Parsons proposed the plan, and this was seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly.

DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB23032

Mr. Liam Hanrahan outlined that preparations are ongoing for the Ballinasloe Fair in conjunction with Mr. Pearse Doherty. Mr. Hanrahan stated that an application is being made for a swim area with a feasibility study to be carried out for the rivers Suck and Shannon. Mr. Hanrahan highlighted that the town and village renewal scheme is now open for applications. Mr. Hanrahan went on to acknowledge Ger Daly's 48 years of service and wished him the best of luck in his retirement.

Ms. Rachel Lowe acknowledged the work of Mr. Fergal Fahy in the Ballinasloe area and welcomed Mr. Derek Troy as the new permanent Senior Executive Engineer for the Ballinasloe Municipal District.

Cllr. M. Connolly thanked Mr. Fergal Fahy for his hard work. Cllr E. Parsons welcomed the swim project and thanked Mr. Fahy for his contribution. Cllr. T Broderick welcomed the input of Mr. Pearse Doherty in the Ballinasloe Fair.

Mr. Brendan McDonagh provided the Councillors with an update on the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme.

Cllr. E. Parsons queried the timeline for this project and whether synergies could be established for swim and recreational areas. Mr. B. McDonagh responded that the project was 18 months behind the original timeline due to the addition of further investigations and covid delays. He also confirmed that synergies could be established. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that flooding is an issue and that delays are frustrating the project. Cllr. D. Connolly expressed his concern for the areas; Derrymullen, Station Road and Kilcooly in relation to flooding. Mr. McDonagh responded that the Station Road is included in the project as well as Deerpark; direct defenses have been proposed with the addition of two new gauges on the OPW hydrometry website. Cllr. T. Broderick queried the delay in obtaining licenses and if the process could be expedited. Mr. Mc Donagh responded that licenses are project specific and are obtained as quickly as possible, it also depends on the availability of the contractors to carry out the works. Cllr. E. Parsons asked that considering the delays could it be possible to establish interim measures to mitigate against flooding in order to protect people's houses. Mr. McDonagh referred to a flooding event in June 2023 and clarified that Brackernagh is not included as part of the scheme as the issues are not due to fluvial flooding and that a minor works application is being considered. Cathaoirleach D. Geraghty thanked Mr. B. Mc Donagh for the update.

CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB23033

Cathaoirleach D. Geraghty thanked Mr. F. Fahy for his work in the Ballinasloe Area and welcomed the permanent appointment of Mr. D. Troy. Cathaoirleach Geraghty also welcomed the appointment of Mr. Finbar Philpot as the new Superintendent and congratulated Ger Daly on his 47 years of service.

Cllr. D. Connolly requested an update on the O.P.W. project in Ballinasloe. Mr. L. Hanrahan responded that survey work is being conducted by the O.P.W. to address the Ukrainian response.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATUALIONS

MDB23034

The Bradley Family on the death of Eugene Bradley, Williamstown
The Mitchell Family on the death of Mary Mitchell, Williamstown
The Comer Family on the death of Mary Comer, Glenamaddy

Congratulations to John Devane on his success in Under 20's Rugby, Beibhinn Parsons on her success in Ladies Rugby, Heather Payne on her success in Irish Soccer and to Galway on winning the Kennedy Cup.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB23035

Cllr. M. Connolly raised the Tourism Strategy for Ballinasloe and requested an update. Cllr. P. Keaveney highlighted that there has been an increase in the number of house break-ins and also expressed his concern about increases in cost in particular the concrete levy.

Cllr P. Keaveney proposed that the concrete levy be abolished, this proposal was seconded by Cllr. M. Connolly.

Cllr. E. Parsons thanked Mr. Fahy for his contribution to Ballinasloe and commended his responsiveness and for completing many projects in the area. Cllr. Parsons requested an update in relation to St. Bridget's. Cllr. D. Connolly thanked all involved in the works at Ashtree and Derrymullen and the landowners. Cllr. D. Connolly quired whether the pedestrian works at Bothar Harris could be completed prior to the fair, he also wished Ger Daly and Fergal Fahy the best and congratulated Derek Troy on his new appointment and requested that the Tourism strategy be discussed at Municipal District. Cllr. E. Parsons requested further information on Beechlawns to which Mr. P. Batty replied that he was not in a position to confirm any developments as of yet. Cllr. P. Keaveney thanked Mr. Fahy for his work but also expressed his frustration at staff changes. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that the draft rail review proposal will be beneficial and as Chair of the Western Rail Committee looked forward to the progression of an Athenry and Claremorris rail line. Cllr. T. Broderick concurred with Cllr. M. Connolly.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on **Wednesday 13th of September @ 2 pm.**

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed

(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

(Date)