

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY, 9th DECEMBER 2020 AT 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Keaveney

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

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

Oifigigh: Mr. L. Hanrahan, Director of Services; Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Mr. E. Mulryan, Acting Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. P. McLynn, Assistant Engineer; Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer; Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator.

CONFIRMATION OF (a) MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2020 AND (b) MINUTES OF DRAFT BUDGETARY PLAN MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2020

MDB20055

a) The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 11th November 2020 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. Broderick.

Matters arising from the Minutes

In response to Cllr. Geraghty and with reference to MDB20049 Page 2, Mr. Hanrahan advised that no response had been received from Roscommon County Council in relation to the November, 2020 Resolution regarding Castlerea Fire Station.

In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons and with reference to MDB20049 Page 2, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Acting Director of Service for Economic, Rural, Community and Corporate Services would respond directly to the members with regard to request for quarterly management presentations on Ballinasloe Pool and Leisure Centre

In response to Cllrs. Dr. Parsons and Broderick and with reference to MDB20049 Page 2, Mr. Hanrahan clarified that the grant aid funding of €10,739 announced for Ballinasloe Swimming pool is to support the implementation of Covid-19 measures. Mr. Hanrahan stated that this funding is part of €2.5m Government funding allocated specifically in order to make swimming pools Covid-19 compliant. Mr. Hanrahan stated that this funding is not

for the purpose of the future development or operations of swimming pools where he advised a separate Local Authorities Swimming Pools Capital Programme Grant is available

In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons and with reference to MDB20053 Page 4, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Acting Director of Service for Economic, Rural, Community and Corporate Services is liaising with the Western Region Enterprise Committee with regard to future investment in Ballinasloe following the closure of Apatar.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB20049 Page 1, Mr. Hanrahan stated that he would circulate to the members Mr. Ciaran Wynne, Senior Executive Engineer's report on the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme in Ballinasloe. Mr. Hanrahan advised that any questions arising should be raised directly with Mr. Wynne.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB20049 Page 1, Mr. Mulryan advised that work on the Town Enhancement Project was substantially complete and that final snagging was underway.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB20053 Page 4, Mr. Mitchell confirmed that the Declaration of public roads is a Reserved Function under the Roads Act, 1993. Mr. Mitchell also confirmed that the Abandonment of a public road/part of a public road is a Reserved Function under the Roads Act, 1993. Mr. Mitchell advised that Galway County Council's policy of Taking in Charge private roads is scheduled to be discussed via the Roads and Transportation SPC forum and that in this regard the SPC can bring forward a policy change to the plenary Council for decision. Mr. Mitchell stated that should monies be re-directed from Local Road Maintenance Funding and/or Notice of Motion Funding this would impact the Council's ability to maintain its current road network.

In response to Cllrs. M. Connolly, Broderick and Keaveney, Mr. Mitchell explained that on completion of a Local Improvement Scheme the upkeep of the private road is the responsibility of the homeowners/landowners. In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Mitchell advised that Galway County Council's Schedule of Public Roads specifies all of the Public Roads within the County. In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Mitchell advised that the Council's 3 Year Roads Plan sets out the public roads scheduled to be upgraded. Mr. Mitchell stated that each Public Road in the County is rated on the Pavement Management System which he stated ensures transparency in the inclusion of roads in the Roads Programme. In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Mulryan advised that the increased frequency and severity of road flooding was a concern and that additional funding from all available funding resources including the OPW and Climate Change Adaptation would be sought to help alleviate flooding on a priority needs basis.

In response to Cllr. M. Connolly and with reference to MDB20049 Page 2, Mr. Mitchell advised that there are ongoing discussions with Tara Mines with regard to assessing the damage to R328.

In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons and with reference to MDB20053 Page 3 with regard to the matter of opening of Dunlo Recreation Park on Sundays, Mr. Mulryan advised that he had discussed same with both the Corporate Services Department and with Galway Rural

Development who operate the TUS Scheme and was advised that there was no available personnel to operate the facility on Sundays. Mr. Mulryan advised that the use of volunteers to operate the service on Sundays was not feasible due to insurance and health and safety concerns.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly and with reference to MDB20049 page 1 with regard to the deterioration of HSE properties in Ballinasloe, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he had raised this matter with the Health Service Executive. Mr. Hanrahan advised that Galway County Council is in discussion with the HSE regarding the purchase of houses from the HSE with the view of adding them to Galway County Council's Social Housing stock as part of the Council's work with the HSE on de-congregational settings.

b) The Minutes of the Draft Budgetary Plan Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 21st October 2020 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. Broderick and seconded by Cllr. D. Connolly.

Matters arising from the Minutes

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the allocation of the €1m additional funding amongst the Municipal Districts was being undertaken through the Corporate Policy Group (CPG).

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MD20056

No business arising.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB20057

No business arising

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATION

MDB20058

Mr. Maurice and Ms. Rita Cassidy , Calla, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
The Forde Family, Moneen, Williamstown, Co. Galway
The Maloney Family, Briarfort, Williamstown, Co. Galway
The Lohan Family, Coraneena, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
The O'Beirne Family on the death of Clara O'Beirne, Kilconnell, Co. Galway

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MDB20059

In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons, Mr. Mulryan advised that while there were sufficient burial plots available in Creagh cemetery an extension to the cemetery would be required in the near future. Mr. Mulryan advised that the proposed extension of Creagh Cemetery was being assessed by the Environment Department. Mr. Mulryan advised that the project may involve archaeological investigations and liaison with the HSE prior to the development of the Part 8 Planning Application by the Council. In response to Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Mulryan

confirmed that land adjoining the Cemetery was in the ownership of Galway County Council. In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons, Mr. Mulryan confirmed that adequate space would be left to facilitate a turning area for machinery in the graveyard.

In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons, Mr. Mulryan advised that the Environment Department are in the process of drawing up draft Bye Laws which would include for rules and regulations around: the erection of monuments in graveyards; the layout of new burial grounds or new burial ground extensions; headstone orientations and the layout of pathways. Mr. Mulryan advised that is expected that the Draft Bye Laws will be available in early 2021.

In response to Cllr. Dr. Parsons, Mr. Mulryan advised that work to close and pipe a section of open drain at the junction of Beechlawn Road would commence in 2021 with an expectation that the works would be complete by Q2 2021.

Cllr. Dr. Parsons advised that a Virtual Public Meeting would take place on Friday the 18th December, 2020 to discuss the proposed Peatlands Climate Action Scheme in Ballinasloe and she asked for the members participation in same.

Cllr. Dr. Parsons paid tribute to the work carried out by volunteers in putting up Christmas lighting in Ballinasloe Town and in other villages in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe.

In response to Cllr. D. Connolly with regard anti-social behavior in places such as non-council carparks etc. Mr. Hanrahan advised that this was an issue for An Garda Síochána.

In response to Cllrs. Broderick and M. Connolly, Mr. Hanrahan advised that matters in relation to settlement areas around local rural train stations should be addressed to the Forward Planning Department as part of their preparation of the draft County Development Plan.

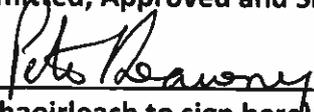
Cllr. Keaveney expressed disappointment with the GAA and the Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) over the treatment of the Galway Ladies Football Team in the All Ireland Semi Final match which was moved at the last minute from Parnell Park to Croke Park.

Cllr. Keaveney wished all the members and the executive a Happy Christmas.

It was agreed that the next Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on **Wednesday, 13th January, 2021 at 2 p.m.**

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Submitted, Approved and Signed



(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

3.03.21

(Date)