

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBER, ARAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL, GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020 AT 2.00 p.m.**

**CATHAOIRLEACH:** Cllr. Keaveney

**I LATHAIR FREISIN:**

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

**Oifigigh:** Mr. L. Hanrahan, Director of Services, Mr. D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, Mr. E. Lydon, Executive Engineer, Ms. A. Monaghan, Staff Officer, Ms. A. Gardiner, Meetings Administrator.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. D. Connolly

**CONFIRMATION OF (a) MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020 AND (b) MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2020** **MDB20033**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. D. Geraghty, seconded by Cllr. Broderick.

**Matters arising from the Minutes**

No matters arising

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2020 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. D. Geraghty, seconded by Cllr. Broderick.

Cllr. M. Connolly requested that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on the 10th June, 2020 be amended to include the following:  
**Minute No. – MDB 20028 - Page 2: Notice of Intention to abandon a section of a Public Road – Section 12 of Roads Act 1993**

*“In response to Cllr. M. Connolly, Mr. Mulryan confirmed that Galway County Council had discussed this matter with the relevant landowner and have agreed to provide a sufficient hardstand area to ensure agricultural vehicles can safely enter/exit the lands as part of the scheme. Mr. Mulryan also confirmed that T.I.I. have approved funding to undertake visibility improvement work at the junction of*

*the L6302 with the N63 (Dempsey Cross) at Mullaghmore North, Moylough and that these works would proceed subject to necessary land agreements being reached with relevant landowners”.*

### **Matters arising from the Minutes**

In response to Cllrs. M. Connolly, Geraghty and Keaveney and with reference to MDB20027 Page 1, Mr. Mitchell advised that a Minor Works Application for Glenamaddy Turlough has been submitted to the OPW and he advised that Hydrological and Environmental Surveys will be carried out subject to OPW approval.

With reference to MDB20029 Page 3, Cllr. Broderick welcomed the decision taken by Galway County Council and all of the relevant stakeholders not to proceed with the Ballinasloe October Fair 2020.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB20029 Page 4 with regard to St. Michael's Square - COVID-19 – Town and Village Renewal Schemes 2020 Mr. Mitchell advised that expression of interests have been sought by Galway County Council for Accelerated Measure (Rounds 1 and 2) and that the closing date for Expression of Interests for Accelerated Measure Round 1 was Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020 with Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> 2020 being the closing date for Expression of Interests for Accelerated Measure Round 2 and the Main Town and Village Renewal Scheme.

In response to Cllr. Broderick and with reference to MDB20029 Page 4, Mr. Hanrahan advised that under the Departments Social Housing Investment Programme Galway County Council has submitted a number of social housing properties for assessment by Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) under the Energy Efficiency - Retrofitting Measure. Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Energy Efficiency – Retrofitting Measure provides for up to 50% funding to Local Authorities per dwelling towards the cost of a full energy efficiency home improvement.

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

MDB20034

All the Members welcomed Mr. Hanrahan and wished him well in his role as Director of Services with Galway County Council. Mr. Hanrahan thanked the members and advised that as Manager of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe he would work to ensure all services and projects within the district were progressed. Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Housing Project at Dunlo Hill, Ballinasloe has been submitted to the Department for approval and that consideration is being given to the renovation of vacant social house properties or “voids” within the Municipal District of Ballinasloe. Mr. Hanrahan, in reference to the Rural Regeneration Programme which is being managed by the Community, Enterprise and Economic Development Department and which supports the renewal of small towns, villages and outlying rural areas stated that the aims of this Programme is to bring derelict properties back into use with an emphasis on re-use for housing. Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Programme focuses on bringing “Above the Shop” premises back into use for family homes which he stated would bring a residential aspect

back into towns such as Ballinasloe which is an objective of Galway County Council. In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that he would update the members on the proposed O’Cualainn Housing Project, Poolboy, Ballinasloe.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Tenant Purchase Scheme remains available to tenants and he advised that a new Affordable Home Scheme will be launched in September, 2020. Cllr. M. Connolly referred to the demand for 2 bedroom units and asked that Galway County Council engage with private builders with a view to ensuring the provision of same in future housing developments. In response to Cllr. Geraghty, Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Housing Liaison Officer with responsibility for the Municipal District of Ballinasloe is available to assist older person/s who live in poor housing conditions and who need assistance and/or advice in the completion of housing support application forms.

In response to Cllr. Broderick who raised the matter of Waste Water Treatment Systems not being installed by Irish Water in small towns and villages in the Municipal District of Ballinasloe, Mr. Mitchell advised that an application for funding has been made to Department of the Environment for a specific fund for the installation of Waste Water Treatment Systems at Craughwell, Abbeyknockmoy and Corofin. Mr. Mitchell advised that to date no response has been received from Department. Cllr. M. Connolly stated that the focus of Irish Water is on the upgrading of existing systems as opposed to the progression of new schemes and he asked that Galway County Council request Block Grant Funding from Irish Water to facilitate the installation of Waste Water Treatment Systems in small towns and villages in County Galway. Mr. Hanrahan advised that the issue has been raised via the County and City Management Association with the newly appointed Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage regarding Irish Water’s engagement with Local Authorities on the provision of Waste Water Treatment Systems and connections to Housing Estates.

In response to Cllrs. Broderick, M. Connolly, Geraghty and Keaveney in relation to unspent Notice of Motion, Conference and Training monies Mr. Hanrahan advised that the Corporate Policy Group have agreed to discuss this matter further with the intention of bringing it forward to the Plenary Council Meeting. Mr. Mitchell advised that the funding for Councillor’s Notice of Motion monies comes from the Council’s Roads Maintenance Budget and he advised that the subsequent re-allocation of the Notice of Motion monies to various road projects by the members is a vital part of the Local Road Maintenance funding. Mr. Mitchell advised that any increase in the Councillor’s Notice of Motion funding allocation would require a pro rata reduction in funding in another area of the Council’s Road Maintenance Budget.

In response to Cllr. Broderick, Mr. Mitchell advised that Notice of Motion monies up to €3,200 can be allocated by members for individual public lighting projects.

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

MDB20035

No business arising

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

MD820036

Mr. Michael Feeney, Leitra, Williamstown, Co. Galway  
The Family of the late Mary Kate Keadin, Kildaree, Williamstown, Co. Galway

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

MD820037

Cllr. M. Connolly asked that members to be mindful when taking credit for projects in situations where other members have used their Notice of Motion money allocations in order to carry out the projects.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe would take place on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September at 2 p.m.

**CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN**

Submitted, Approved and Signed



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(Cathaoirleach to sign here)

9.09.20

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(Date)