

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Chonamara

Municipal District of Conamara

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held on Friday 21st January, 2022 at 10a.m.

ILATHAIR:

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Seamus Walsh.

BAILL: Comh. / Cllr. G. King, E. Mannion, P. Mac An Iomaire, A. McKinstry, T. Ó Curraoin, N. Thomas & T. Welby. D 'O Cualainn.

OIFIGH: M. Owens, Director of Services, Derek Pender, Director of Services, D. Mitchell, Senior Engineer, P. Breathnach, Senior Executive Engineer, K. Lydon, Technician, I. Martyn, Administrative, Officer/Meetings Administrator,

Mr. Pender introduced Noel Greene and David Joyce from Aecom who gave a presentation on the Greenway Project from Oughterard to Clifden.

A discussion followed and the following issues were raised:

Cllr. Walsh thanked the consultants and raised the issue of connectivity to Moycullen village.

Cllr. Mannion thanked the consultants and Mr. Lydon for his work on the Greenway to date and she expressed concern about connectivity into the villages of Moycullen Oughterard and Clifden.

Cllr. Welby thanked the consultants for their presentation and he questioned if the old railway line from Oughterard to Clifden would be considered and he enquired if the project would be going to ABP.

Comh. O'Curraoin expressed his gratitude and his support for the scheme. He highlighted that public consultation with landowners was very important and he questioned if the greenway would link up with the Moycullen Bypass.

Cllr. Thomas said that it was very positive news and he expressed his concern regarding connectivity to Moycullen village. He said the greenway must be accessible for everyone and consultation with landowners and shop owners must take place. He enquired when the route would be selected.

Mr. Pender replied that there was a start and finish point and how it would be connected would be decided. He advised that connectivity to Moycullen village would not be an issue. He said that the railway line was not the only option but may well be the final option and consultation would take place regarding the route selection.

Mr. Greene stated that the key long-term benefits of the Greenway were Tourism and the Community element. He said that what is adjacent to the Greenway would be considered and included in the consultation process. He added that the preferred route would have a corridor of 50m each side.

Comh. O'Curraoin reiterated that consultation was important and in particular with landowners.

Cllr. Thomas stated that the gradients of the Greenway was of vital importance and it should be inclusive for elderly persons and persons with disability and in particular in the connection to Moycullen Village.

Cllr. McKinstry thanked the consultants for their presentation and he expressed his concern that the greenway was 750m from the village. He said that the greenway and connectivity to the greenway should be segregated and the Bypass allows space to segregate the greenway. He said that Moycullen village would be mostly a pedestrianised village and it should be possible to access the housing estates without sharing with vehicular traffic. He emphasized the importance of the greenway in facilitating modal shift including in the context of electric bicycles.

Cllr. Thomas reiterated that the greenway is for everyone including the elderly and wheelchair users and he acknowledged Mr. Lydon for his work on progressing the greenway.

Mr. Pender in reply confirmed that a route 750m away from the village was not suitable.

Cllr. Walsh thanked Aecom Consultants and Mr. Lydon for their work.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held on Friday 3rd December, 2021. **CMD21071**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held on Monday 5th November 2021 were **PROPOSED** by Cllr McKinstry and **SECONDED** by Cllr. King and **AGREED**.

Confirmation of Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held on Monday 5th November, 2021 **CMD21072**

The Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held on Monday 5th November 2021 were **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Mannion and **SECONDED** by Cllr. McKinstry and **AGREED**.

2. Proposed Taking in Charge of Road in the townland of Baunogue

CMD21073

Road commencing at junction with L-11031(E69,351;N256,705) in the townland of Baunoge and extending north/east for a distance of 365 metres in the townland of Baunoge and finishing at (E69,673; N256,783) in the townland of Baunoge.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Welby and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Mannion and **AGREED** to declare the road a public road the statutory process having been complied with.

3. Proposed Taking in Charge of Road in the townland of Tullyvealnaslee

CMD21074

Road commencing at junction with L-1310-4(E111,066;N243,970) in the townland of Tullyvealnaslee and extending north/east for a distance of 256 metres in the townland of Tullyvealnaslee and finishing at (E111,312; N243,982) in the townland of Tullyvealnaslee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr. Welby and **SECONDED** by Cllr. Walsh and **AGREED** to declare the road a public road the statutory process having been complied with.

6. A.O.B.

CMD21075

Mr. Pender advised the Meeting that funding for the N59 had been withdrawn at the current time. He said that a number of schemes across the country were being deferred to the second phase of the National Development Plan as the funding had been reduced to 1bn for the first five years.

Cllr. Mannion expressed her concern in relation to the delay in upgrade and the serious condition of the road from Derrylee to Clifden. She said that a number of vehicles had

gone off the road and she enquired if works on the section of road on the entrance to the town of Clifden could be progressed under Part 8.

Cllr. King said the bend at Derrylee on the N59 road required emergency works and he advised that crash barriers should be erected and he enquired about works on the section of road from Bunnakill to Oughterard.

Cllr. Welby enquired if the area was outside the S.A.C. area and if it was possible to carry out the works under Part 8.

Cllr. Thomas enquired if a risk assessment had been carried out on a section of wall at Killeen House, Gortacleva.

Cllr. Walsh agreed that the condition of the wall was a concern and he said that the trees on the Coolaghy to Rosscahill and Moyvoon to Oughterard roads were very dangerous.

Mr. Pender replied that he would request the R.S.I. engineer in the NRPO office to inspect it. He said that crash barriers would be installed on the bend at Derrylee and this would be carried out by the T.I.I.

Cllr. Welby told the meeting that the person living in Killeen House had carried out some repair works to the wall.

Cllr. King enquired about the Bunnakill to Oughterard proposed works.

Mr. Pender replied that the first section of 5kms had been completed. He said that in regards to planning permission the roads section would liaise with NPWS and Inland Fisheries. He advised that method statements were drafted and sent to NPWS and Inland Fisheries and upon receipt of approval the works can be progressed to topo and ground investigations and should go to tender next year.

Cllr. Walsh thanked Mr. Pender for his update.

Cllr. Thomas enquired regarding the lack of a waste water treatment facility on Inis Mór.

Mr. Mitchell replied that Irish Water have responsibility and he would request an update from Mr. Kelly, Senior Engineer, Water Services Section.

Cllr. McKinstry expressed his concern regarding the waste treatment facility in the Bearna area. Mr. Owens replied that an update would be sought for the next meeting.

Comh. Mac An Iomaire requested an update on the progress on the bridges to Lettermore and he said that people need to be informed of the works that will be carried out. He also enquired if the public had any input in the decision-making.

He further enquired about the proposed cycle lane in Salthill and his concern regarding access to the R336.

Mr. Mitchell replied that he would provide the information but safety concerns have to be addressed and the information provided will be about work to address the safety concerns. Mr. Mitchell that works are currently being designed and the works to address the safety issues will include: Vehicle activated Traffic Lights, Work on Facades and repair the Parapets.

Cllr. Thomas stated that he was concerned about the level of bacteria downstream in Bearna and he said that the proposed cycleway in Salthill is not suitable.

Cllr. McKinstry advised that the proposed cycleway is part of a pilot scheme and he said that 60% of schools are in the vicinity and it will reduce car traffic on the roads.

Mr. Owens told the meeting that details of the proposed cycleway are available on the Galway City website. He said that there was a timeline for submissions from 14th January to the 28th January and it was possible to make submissions online.

Cllr. Thomas highlighted the issue of dumping on the dual carriageway at Galway Clinic.

Cllr. King expressed an update on gritting of roads in mid-Connemara Area. Cllr. King said there was a major concern regarding frost on the roads in mid-Connemara and a local depot with a truck for gritting was necessary.

Mr. Mitchell replied that frost on the roads was more prevalent in the east of the County and in periods of substantial frost gritting is carried out in additional areas. He advised that funding is minimal and it is carried out on a needs basis. He said that the situation regarding salting/gritting regional roads he was not in a budgetary position to confirm. He said regarding the winter service plan that it is managed from the machinery yard. It is working well and he would liaise with T.I.I. regarding having a depot located closer for the Connemara Area.

Cllr. Welby proposed that an M.D. meeting be held to discuss the issue of bus-parking in Oughterard and Cllr. Mannion seconded the motion

Mr. Mitchell replied that he had spoken to Mr. Tierney who is involved in the G.A.A. and he advised him that the draft lease agreement from the GAA is not applicable. Mr. Tierney agreed that he would liaise with the GAA Club and with the agreement of the GAA amend the proposal and outline the expectations on both sides to get the matter resolved.

Cllr. Mannion enquired if there was any update on outdoor dining for the summer season. Mr. Owens replied that there was no update but any information received will be circulated to the Municipal Districts.

Mr. Mitchell advised if the members had any queries they could raise the issues ahead at the M.D. Meetings.

Cllr. Walsh replied that the members are very satisfied with the responses received at the M.D. Meetings and he complimented the staff on the information provided.

M. Owens advised that the next meeting will be to consider the Roads Programme and with the agreement of the Members the date of the meeting would be scheduled

to facilitate consideration of same in conjunction with the Municipal District Schedule of Works.

CHRÍOCHNAIGH AN CRUINIÚ ANSIN

Submitted Signed and Approved

Cathaoirleach:

Seamus Walsh M.C.C

Date:
