

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

Ceantar Bardasach Chonamara **Municipal District of Conamara**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara held at the Council Chamber, Aras an Chontae, Galway on Friday the 23rd of October 2020 @ 11.00 a.m

ILATHAIR:

Baill:

Cllr. G. King Cathaoirleach, N. Thomas,
S. Walsh, T. O'Curraoin, T. Welby, E.
Mannion, D. Ó'Cuailáin, P. Mac An Iomaire. A.
McKinstry

Oifigigh:

A. Farrell, Director of Service
D. Mitchell, S.E Infrastructure-Operations
P. Breathnach S.E.E Infrastructure-Operations
T.J Redmond, Area Engineer, N. Conamara
S. Groarke, Meetings Administrator

Apologies:

1. Minutes of the MD of Conamara Meeting held on the 11-9-2020. CMD 20033

The adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 11-9-2020 was proposed by Cllr. T. O'Curraoin and seconded by Cllr. S. Walsh.

2. Matters arising from the Minutes CMD 20034

Cllr. E. Mannion referred to the works required for the alleviation of flooding at Clifden and that it was necessary to provide reassurance to the community-she expressed her gratitude to all those who had provided assistance. Comh. D O'Cuailáin enquired about the date of the special meeting to discuss the R-336 and was advised that the chamber has been provisionally booked pending confirmation from the DOS that he will be available to attend. He also

referred to the taking of samples in regard to the bridges at Ceantar na nOileáin and was advised by D. Mitchell that the Council is awaiting the results.

3. Declaration of Road as a Public Road- Section 11 Roads Act 1993 **CMD 20035**

On the proposal of Comh. D. O’Cualáin, seconded by Cllr. N. Thomas the road at L-52018-2 Coill Rua Thoir, Indreabhán was declared to be a public road.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. O’Cualáin, seconded by Cllr. A. McKinstry the road & footpath at L-5384-21 Carraig an Iolair Estate, An Chéibh, Barna was declared to be a public road.

4. Knock & Lettermullen Burial Grounds **CMD 20036**

The meeting was advised that some of the Councillors had spoken to the landowner of the site adjacent to the burial ground at Knock, Inverin -but he has refused to sell. The members advised that the matter is urgent and that the Council needs to identify another site at Knock and address the problem. The situation is similar at Lettermullen and the meeting was advised that the potential site is not suitable. The meeting was advised that space at both is critical and the community is not happy about using the footpath spaces for burials- alternative sites need to be identified. A. Farrell referred to the e-mail received from M. Melody S.E Environment Department and outlined his comments as follows:

Lettermullen BG: “GCC have been to the area on two occasions- once with Cllr Mac An Iomaire to review options including an inspection of a potential new site and examination of works to expand capacity at Sean Bhaile BG. Neither options were viable unfortunately. There is still remaining capacity in the area and we will continue to work with the community where opportunities are identified to us”.

Knock BG: “A local delegation were to visit the owner of lands adjacent to the existing burial grounds which offers the best possibility to reaching a solution. We await confirmation of the outcome of this process. Other sites have been examined- however for planning and development reasons these are not being pursued”.

He advised the meeting that he will raise this matter with E. Ruane DOS for the Environment Section. A discussion took place in regard to the fact that many sites in Conamara are not suitable for burial grounds due to problems with soil depth and flooding and the need for sites to be dug out and infilled.

5. Private Waste Collection-Conamara **CMD 20037**

The meeting was advised that specific areas at Tiernea, Minna, Knock, Carraroe & Inverin and other areas in North Conamara are not being served by the private waste contractor Barna Waste and there is an onus on the Council to ensure that this service is provided. A discussion took place in regard to the waste contractor’s comments that some of the roads are too narrow for the trucks to access and turn which is a safety concern. Comh. Mac an Iomaire advised that he contacted Barna Waste about this and referred to the fact that a small pickup truck can be deployed to access the roads ahead of the main truck. The

meeting was advised that oil trucks can service these houses and the Council needs to ensure that the waste service is provided. Other problems associated with the waste collection service include the fact that refuse bags being left at the top of roads and that it could take 3-5 days before they are collected. The problems associated with illegal dumping were also raised. A. Farrell referred to the e-mail received from M. Melody S.E Environment Section and outlined his comment about this as follows.

Waste Collection: “Our experience is that private waste collectors are generally very willing to provide a collection service when requested. However- if there are specific cases of refusal, GCC can examine further on receipt of the details”

He advised the elected members to compile the specific cases of refusal which can then be referred to the Environment Section to raise with the waste contractors.

6. Update-Bus Stops for Conamara

CMD 20038

D. Mitchell advised that he had submitted applications to the NTA for funding in regard to various bus stop locations in Conamara -but they have been rejected by the NTA for not meeting its criteria on population grounds- they are prioritizing locations with a population of 5,000 or more. They advised that there is no funding available for applications that do not meet the population criteria. Cllr. N. Thomas advised of a suitable site in Moycullen and enquired if the Council could purchase the site and get the NTA to review the application again-he also suggested that GCC could also do the work itself.

7. Update-Hydrology Report for Moycullen

CMD 20039

D. Mitchell advised that Tobin Consultants have been appointed to deliver a Hydrology Report for Moycullen and he anticipated that it will be completed after Christmas. The Consultants will consider factors such as the diversion of the river and the design for a proper surface water system for the alleviation of flooding.

3. Cathaoirleach’s Business

CMD 20040

Cllr. G. King congratulated Moycullen GAA team on their win in the County Final and the other elected members also expressed their congratulations. He welcomed the appointment of 2 additional outdoor staff for the Clifden area. He raised his concerns about the delays on Social Housing Maintenance and advised that each MD should have its own maintenance crew due to the time factor associated with the maintenance staff having to travel long distances from Galway City. It was noted that some housing maintenance is done by contract. He wished everyone well during Level 5 and thanked the staff for maintaining Council services.

4. Director’s Business

CMD 20041

A. Farrell advised that he has no items.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Municipal District of Conamara will be held at 10.00 a.m on Friday 20-11-2020 in the Council Chamber,

CROCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN