

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE

MIONTUAIRISÍ

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

Held at ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL,

Dé Máirt/Tuesday, 17th December 2019 at 11.00am

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. Jimmy McClearn, Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Comhaltaí: Comh./Cllr. T. Broderick, J. Byrne, I. Canning, L. Carroll, J. Charity, D. Collins, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, G. Cronnelly, D. Ó Cualáin, J. Cuddy, S. Curley, T. Ó Curraoin, Aisling Dolan, G. Donuhue, G. Finnerty, D. Geraghty, S. Herterich Quinn, M. Hoade, P. Hynes, C. Keaveney, P. Keaveney, D. Killilea, M. Kinane, G. King, P. Mac an Iomaire, M. Maher, E. Mannion, K. McHugh Farag, A. McKinstry, P. Murphy, A. Reddington, P. Roche, J. Sheridan, N. Thomas, S. Walsh, T. Welby

Oifigh: Mr. Kevin Kelly, Chief Executive (Interim)
Ms. C. Delaney, Acting County Secretary
Mr. G. Mullarkey, Head of Finance
Mr. J. Cullen, Director of Services
Mr. A. Farrell, A/Director of Services
Mr. M. Owens, A/Director of Services
Mr. N. Madden, Executive Engineer
Ms. F. Mitchell, Staff Officer
Ms. S. Elwood, Clerical Officer
Ms. C. Walsh, Clerical Officer

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an bpaidir

Cllr. Mc Clearn welcomed Cllr. O'Cualáin back from his honeymoon.

ITEM NO. 1 - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS

(a) Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 25th November 2019 **3532**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. Charity the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 25th November 2019 were **AGREED**.

Cllr. Maher welcomed Cllr. Aisling Dolan to the Fine Gael party and wished both Cllr. Roche and Cllr. Aisling Dolan the best of luck in the forthcoming General Election contest.

Referring to the Retention of Records Bill 2019, Cllr. D. Connolly enquired about the impact this had in relation to the Tuam Mother and Baby Home.

Mr. Owens advised that based on the current terms of the Retention of Records Bill 2019, the Bill relates to the retention of certain records of the Commission to inquire into Child Abuse, the Residential Institutions Redress Board and the Residential Institutions Redress Review Committee and that currently it did not appear to include the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes.

Councillor Killilea and Cronnelly rejected and expressed their dissatisfaction at the unwelcome comments made by the Galway Traveller Movement following the recent publication of the Traveller Homes Now - Third Monitoring Report (November 2019) by the Galway Traveller Movement and requested an apology. There was a suggestion that the LTACC should be disbanded and other options explored by the Housing SPC. Cllr. Roche stated that he did not want to see the LTACC abandoned and stated that the recent report was very selective in content and in his view a lot of valuable work was carried out by the LTACC.

Cllr. Welby informed the meeting that he was a Member of the National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (NTACC) and that there is a National plan with a proposal to set up a specific SPC for Traveller Accommodation. He confirmed that he would circulate the report to all Members. He stated that based on his experience as a Member of the NTACC, the Galway County LTACC was one of the most effective in the country.

In response, Mr. Owens stated that the comments made by Galway Traveller Movement were regrettable and disappointing with some inaccurate comments that did not reflect the relationship between Galway County Council and the Traveller community. He confirmed that Galway County Council exceeded their delivery target, by meeting the accommodation needs of 262 Traveller households during the period 2014 – 2018 including a doubling of the accommodation targets for 2017 and 2018. He said that the Galway Traveller Movement as members of the LTACC actively participated in the development of the current Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019 – 2024, including supporting the independent verification of accommodation needs by Niall Crowley and Rachel Mullen and the development of an equality and human rights statement as the basis for the development and monitoring of the Programme.

Mr. Owens referred to the requirement for the full co-operation of those living on various sites to ensure that planned houses proceed in accordance with the planned schedule.

Mr. Owens concluded by referencing the collective commitment of Galway County Council to meeting the accommodation needs of the Traveller community, in a works programme that will deliver an investment of €700,000 in 2019 and €4 million in Traveller accommodation over the period 2019 – 2020.

(b) Minutes of Statutory Budget Meeting held on 25th November 2019

Matters Arising

Cllr. Finnerty raised the matter of charging rates on vacant buildings as he is receiving enquiries about when this process is due to commence. He asked that the public be kept informed on this issue.

In response, Mr. Mullarkey advised that letters will issue in early January, to the identified vacant properties which currently receive 100% vacant levy relief. Cllr. Finnerty asked what the situation is in relation to buildings that were never occupied. Mr. Mullarkey replied stating that from next year they would be liable for 25% of their rate bill.

Cllr. Killilea referred to unfinished estates outlining an example of an unfinished estate where the Bond received was €150,000 and it would cost the Council €300,000 to complete the estate. He asked what action could be taken to address this shortfall.

Mr. Cullen agreed and stated that there was a provision in the Budget in the sum of €100,000 each year and this helped towards addressing the priority issues when there was not enough of a Bond in place. This provision is not included in the Current Budget or in the most recent budget adopted. Mr. Cullen advised that in these situations, the Roads Section focus on addressing the key elements including lighting, footpaths etc.

Cllr. Killilea asked could it be funded out of the Capital Budget. In response, Mr. Cullen said that it would not be appropriate to use the Capital Budget, it would have to be funded from the Revenue Budget.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. Carroll the Minutes of the Statutory Budget Meeting held on 25th November 2019 were **AGREED**.

(c) Minutes of Corporate Policy Group held on 16th September 2019

Matters Arising

Cllr. Carroll referred to Item No. 6 – Audit Committee of the Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 16th September 2019, he requested that a correction be made in relation to the period the members remain on the Committee, to be amended to read 2019-2024.

Cllr. Carroll referred to the Chief Executive's comment that by comparison to other Local Authorities the council is underfunded by approx. €45m, and that as a result we

are the second last in spend per capita. Cllr. McClearn replied to Cllr. Carroll and advised that the members had two opportunities to raise the income and neither of the options were taken.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Kinane **SECONDED** by Cllr. Herterich Quinn the Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 16th September 2019 were **AGREED**.

ITEM NO. 2 - TO REVOKE RESOLUTION 3229 OF MAY 28TH 2018, WHICH APPROVED THE DISPOSAL OF 0.762 HECTARES OF LAND AT DUNLO, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY, TO BALLINASLOE TENNIS CLUB LTD. UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001. 3533

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. M. Connolly **SECONDED** by Cllr. Keaveney it was **AGREED** to revoke Resolution 3229 of May 28th 2018, which approved the disposal of 0.762 hectares of land at Dunlo, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, to Ballinasloe Tennis Club Ltd. under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Revoke Section 183

Cllr. M. Connolly	Cllr. Finnerty	Cllr. Cuddy
Cllr. Kinane	Cllr. Hoade	Cllr. Keaveney
Cllr. Herterich Quinn	Cllr. Byrne	Cllr. Donohue
Cllr. Thomas	Cllr. Cronnelly	Cllr. Charity
Cllr. Walsh	Cllr. Carroll	Cllr. Geraghty
Cllr. Sheridan	Cllr. Collins	Cllr. D. Connolly
Cllr. King	Comh. Mac Ionamaire	
Comh. Ó Cualáin	Cllr. Welby	
Cllr. Curley	Cllr. Mc Kinstry	

ITEM NO. 3 - TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 FOR THE DISPOSAL OF LANDS OF 0.762 HECTARES OF LAND AT DUNLO, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY, TO BALLINASLOE TENNIS CLUB LTD. 3534

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Aisling Dolan **SECONDED** by Cllr. Keaveney it was **AGREED** to consider report under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 for the disposal of lands of 0.762 hectares of land at Dunlo, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, to Ballinasloe Tennis Club Ltd.

Cllr. D. Connolly enquired if Galway County Council could amend the terms of the lease from 23 years to 25 years and beyond.

In response, Mr. Farrell confirmed that the members decision is limited to what is contained in the notice and report for consideration.

Cllr. Aisling Dolan said that Ballinasloe Tennis Club were looking forward to working with Galway County Council and she asked if a staff member had been assigned, Mr. Farrell responded, stating that the team had a recent meeting with the Corporate Services staff.

ITEM NO. 4 - TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 FOR THE GRANTING OF TEMPORARY LEASEHOLD AND LICENCE ON LANDS AT THE FORMER GALWAY AIRPORT AT CARNMORE, CO. GALWAY TO GALWAY FLYING CLUB FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 22ND 2019 TO DECEMBER 21ST 2020 **3535**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Collins **SECONDED** by Cllr. Carroll it was **AGREED** to consider report under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 for the granting of temporary leasehold and licence on lands at the former Galway Airport at Carnmore, Co. Galway to Galway Flying Club for the period December 22nd 2019 to December 21st 2020.

Members asked that Galway Flying Club (GFC) be included in the consultation process for any future Galway Airport Master Plan. The issue of the wording in the letter accompanying this item was referenced by Members saying that it differed from what was presented to the City Council as there was no reference in their

correspondence to this being the final lease to GFC. Mr. Farrell responded advising that the letter was intended to give an understanding to the Members of the position and he confirmed that the content was in line with the discussions with the City Council. He said that the Section 183 as issued to the Members cannot be amended and the decision to be made by the Members is based on what is presented to them in the S183 notice rather than the cover letter. He advised that proposals will be brought before the Members in 2020, regarding the Master Plan for the Airport.

Other Members asked if Galway County Council was going to do a Master Plan or a Feasibility study, referencing the report carried out by Future Analytics in 2015. Some Members stated that Galway is a fast-growing city and hinterland and questioned the removal of the airstrip.

Mr. Kelly confirmed to Members that what is planned for the Galway Airport site is the development of a Masterplan and not a Feasibility study. He advised that this will follow after the work on the development of a Master Plan for Garraun. He said that the formal airport site is the only site in the country specifically mentioned in the National Planning Framework. In doing the Master Plan, other agencies will be consulted, however, it will be the Members of both Galway County Council and Galway City Council who will have the final decision on the future use of the lands. He stated that Galway County Council had indicated to Galway Flying Club's legal team that their presence at the Galway Airport site is a temporary presence and this has been recognised and accepted by the Flying Club. Given the future plans for the land they have been advised to look at alternative sites, and, he confirmed to Members that the Council would consult with Galway Flying Club in relation to the Master plan. He clarified that the only decision to be made was regarding the approval or otherwise of the Section 183. Some members expressed the view that an aviation use into the future would be important.

ITEM NO. 5 - TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.2560 HECTARES OF LAND AT CREGBOY, CLAREGALWAY, CO. GALWAY **3536**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Cuddy, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Charity, the report under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 on the disposal of 0.2560 hectares of land at Cregboy, Claregalway, Co. Galway was **AGREED**.

ITEM NO. 6 - TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 ON THE DISPOSAL OF 0.2744 HECTARES OF LAND AT CREGBOY, CLAREGALWAY, CO. GALWAY 3537

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Charity, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Carroll, the report under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 on the disposal of 0.2744 hectares of land at Cregboy, Claregalway, Co. Galway was **AGREED**.

ITEM NO. 7(a) - TO CONSIDER THE AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE 2018 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT (AFS) AND STATUTORY AUDITORS REPORT (PURSUANT TO SECTION 60 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2014) 3538

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Charity, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Collins, the Audit Committee Report on the 2018 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) and Statutory Auditors Report (Pursuant to Section 60 of the Local Government Act 2014) was **AGREED**.

ITEM NO. 7(B) - TO CONSIDER AUDITED ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDIT SERVICE STATUTORY AUDIT REPORT TO GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST 2018

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Carroll, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Charity, the Audited Annual Financial Statement for Galway County Council and Local Government Audit Service Statutory Audit Report to Galway County Council for year ended December 31st 2018 was **AGREED**.

Cllr. McClearn welcomed Rachel Scully, a transition year student, who was present at the meeting as an observer and wished her well in her future studies.

ITEM NO. 8 - BROADBAND UPDATE – PRESENTATION BY NATIONAL BROADBAND IRELAND **3539**

Mr. Joe Lavin, Chief Commercial Officer, National Broadband Ireland (NBI) accompanied by his colleagues Nicola Cooke and Billy Mannelly from NBI and Jake Ryan from the Department made a presentation to the Members. Noel Madden Galway County Council's Broadband Officer was also in attendance.

Mr. Lavin informed the members that the plan being presented was signed and agreed four weeks ago and that Galway County Council is the first local authority to receive a presentation. In his presentation Mr. Lavin provided an overview of National Broadband Ireland (NBI) and its commitment to future-proofing internet access in rural Ireland using fibre technologies. Its aim is to eliminate Ireland's digital divide promising the delivery of infrastructure to empower 1.1million people who have remained underserved with a full telecommunications service. Mr. Lavin set out issues addressed in the National Broadband Plan including critical infrastructure, technology overview, broadband deployment across County Galway with supporting maps and projected timeframe of associated surveys. Mr Lavin also stressed the importance of engagement with all stakeholders, Local Authority departments, Garda Síochána, communities and other stakeholders including IFA, ICA IBEC, An Post etc.

The members thanked Mr. Lavin and following a series of questions Mr. Lavin responded as follows:

One challenge faced by NBI is with Eir deployment, he outlined that where a connection is required some distance from the road, a duct may have to be provided. He said that NBI's plan is to build into the customers premises and this will involve going either underground or overground. He confirmed that NBI will cover costs up to €5,000 and any cost over that amount will have to be paid by the customer.

With regard to moving poles, he said they will be using Eir's infrastructure, and NBI are not in a position to ask Eir to move poles.

In relation to 5G, NBI will be providing fibre to the home. Some premises could incur a high cost initially, but over the period of 25 years, it will prove to be cost effective in the long run because of the speed of the service they will be receiving. He advised

that 5G is the solution at present and down the road it will be 6G and 7G and that the best technology to use is fibre.

Referring to the planned route, Oughterard was just given as an example, he advised that they will be publishing a plan after Christmas. He said the mapping consultation was completed at the end of September and they only recently updated this information.

He advised that NBI inform customers if they are in an intervention area or not, and customers can request to be included.

Referring to Fair Usage Policy, he advised that fibre optic technology does not degrade and that every customer will receive a minimum level of 20mb in the beginning. After 5 years it will increase to 300mb, and after 10 years 500mb or whatever will be the standard at that stage. He advised that the service charge will be in line with wholesale charges. He said that bills will issue from the service provider and that the buyer needs to be aware and they need to know what they are signing up for. He said that NBI will be requiring all service providers to assure them that they can provide the service and meet the requirements. He said equipment and service will be tested and there will be penalties for the service providers.

With regard to the Islands it will be a wireless service at the starting point. Once it is on the Islands it will be fibre, and it will mean that people living on the Islands will be able to receive the same service as everybody else.

With regard to having a blanket coverage, if somebody cannot receive the service, they can make contact with the Department. If they are in an Amber area, they will take an order, if it is a Grey area, they will investigate.

In relation to comments about schools, Mr. Lavin said that these schools have been identified to them by Galway County Council's Broadband Officer. He said that schools will be done as a priority, throughout all 26 counties.

Cllr. McClearn thanked Mr. Lavin for attending the meeting and providing a very informative presentation to the members.

Cllr. Welby **PROPOSED** that Minister Sean Canney be asked to come to speak to the members at the January meeting as he was involved with and had an input into the Atlantic Corridor Project. This was **SECONDED** by Cllr. Broderick.

ITEM NO. 9 - TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5A) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED) **3540**

- Bachelor of Commerce with Accounting, National University of Ireland Galway, Academic year 2019-2020. (Retrospective approval)
- EU Studies Programme, The Northern and Western Regional Assembly & Galway Technology Centre, Academic year 2019-2020. (Retrospective approval)
- Operations Management Module, University of Birmingham, Academic year 2019-2020. (Retrospective approval)

Matters Arising

Cllr. Carroll asked if the funding for these courses related to the 2019 or 2020 Training and Conference budgets and if the adequate provision remain in the allowance having regard to expenditure already incurred.

In response, Ms. Delaney confirmed that she would revert to the members with clarification on the year concerned and availability of sufficient allowance.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Hoade **SECONDED** by Cllr. Finnerty Item No. 9 was **AGREED** subject to clarification.

A letter of clarification was subsequently issued on the 19th December, 2019 outlining the position to the Members, with confirmation that the year concerned was 2020.

**ITEM NO. 10 - TO CONSIDER THE MANAGEMENT REPORT – DECEMBER 2019
IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 136(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
2001 (AS AMENDED)** **3541**

Cllr. Donohue referred to the Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) County Galway Bye Laws, No. 1 – 2019 (Housing Estates Slow Zones). She enquired as to how householders will be notified of same and if there is a deadline.

Cllr. Mannion welcomed the Destination Town Funding for Clifden. She thanked Fáilte Ireland and the staff of the Community & Enterprise Unit for all their work.

In response, Mr. Cullen advised that a public notice will be put into the newspapers for the Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) County Galway Bye Laws, No. 1 – 2019 (Housing Estates Slow Zones) and advised that there is a statutory process that will be adhered to and this matter will come before the Elected Members for final adoption.

ITEM NO. 11 - CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE **3542**

No matters arising.

ITEM NO. 12 - CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS **3543**

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Broderick, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Welby, the Members **AGREED** to transfer the balance from Cllr. Broderick's 2019 Training and Conference fund to St. Gabriel's N.S.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Geraghty, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Donohue, the Members **AGREED** to transfer €300.00 from Cllr. Geraghty's 2019 Training and Conference fund to Glynsk Tidy Town's and not Glinsk Community Council as stated in last month's Council meeting (a/c no. 107539).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Keaveney, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Roche, the Members **AGREED** to transfer the balance from Cllr. Keaveney's 2019 Training and Conference fund to Kilkerrin Tidy Towns.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Geraghty, **SECONDED** by Cllr. D. Connolly, the Members **AGREED** to transfer the remainder from Cllr. Geraghty's 2019 Training and Conference fund to Williamstown Tidy Towns (a/c no. 189908) and not Williamstown Development Company as started at last month's council meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. Ó Cualáin, **SECONDED** by Comh. Ó Curraóin, the Members **AGREED** to transfer €540 from Comh. Ó Cualáin 2019 Training and Conference fund to Cumann Forbartha Chois Fharráige, Indreabhán for upcoming community projects.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. Ó Cualáin, **SECONDED** by Comh. Ó Curraóin, the Members **AGREED** to transfer €500 from Comh. Ó Cualáin 2019 Training and Conference fund to Comharchumann Mhic Dara, an Cheathrú Rua for upcoming community projects.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. Ó Cualáin, **SECONDED** by Comh. Ó Curraóin, the Members **AGREED** to transfer €500 from Comh. Ó Cualáin 2019 Training and Conference fund to the new children's playground in Spiddal.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Byrne, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher, the Members **AGREED** to transfer monies from Cllr. Byrne's 2019 Training and Conference fund to as follows: €100 to the Parkrun; €300 to Kinvara GAA; €300 to Footpath Development; and €200 to Gort Christmas Lights.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Charity, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Cuddy, the Members **AGREED** *“that the Council hold a Civic Reception to honor Ms. Deirdre Newell, Army Captain, Tnegurrane, Corrandulla, Co. Galway to recognise her achievement of swimming across the English Channel”.*

This Notice of Motion is referred to the CPG.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McKinstry, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Welby, the following Motion was **AGREED** *“that Galway Council work with the students of Colaiste Einde and N.P.W.S. to investigate potential sites in Galway to create a National Children's Forest/Forais na bPaistí”.*

This Item was addressed by A/County Secretary.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McKinstry, **SECONDED** by Cllr. Aisling Dolan, the Members **AGREED** *“that Galway County Council tracks the money spent on and applied for Cycling Infrastructure to ensure that the target of 10% of transport spending is reached”*.

Mr. Cullen replied to Cllr. McKinstry N.O.M. and advised that expenditure is tracked in line with the categorisation of road grants received but that it would be difficult to separately identify the spend on cycling infrastructure which in urban areas is usually incorporated as part of an overall scheme design. He said there was no problem in principle with the NOM except that there may be an expectation that would be difficult to achieve.

Cllr. McHugh Farag referred to the matter of Road Gritting with regard to the recent weather that was experienced and asked for clarification regarding what plans were in place and if the Council had adequate salt stock in place.

Cllr. Geraghty commented on road gritting also.

Cllr. Cronnelly said it was important that roads around rural schools be gritted. Also, that slip roads and bridges on motorways need to be well gritted.

Mr. Cullen replied that the gritting of roads, is carried out in-line with the Winter Maintenance Plan and this plan runs and is operated very well. He told the members that there is a Duty Engineer assigned to track the weather conditions and that this duty takes place every day and that gritting did take place every night, as required. He said that the Winter Maintenance Plan sets out the routes that will be gritted and that it is important that people realise that not all roads are gritted and that drivers need to be alert to weather conditions previously. He also advised that if roads are gritted, the grit can sometimes wash away, so drivers always need to be alert when driving. He advised that the Council's Salt stock is full, and that all relevant staff/drivers are on standby, if and when they are needed.

ITEM NO. 13 - VOTES OF SYMPATHY / CONGRATULATIONS

3544

Resolutions of Congratulations

A resolution of congratulations was extended to the following:

Colasite Einde Secondary School on their initiative to create a National Children's Forest "Forais na bPaisti".

Notice of Motion No. 14 – Martina Kinane

3545

Cllr. Kinane made the following proposal; *"that short term parking options at Oranmore train station be urgently considered by Galway County Council until the longer-term issue of additional parking spaces is addressed.*

I call on funding to be allocated for the construction of a tired car park at this location".

The following written reply was issued to Cllr. Kinane:

"The current parking arrangements at the train station at Gurrane are unsatisfactory and it is intended to bring forward bylaws in the near future to address management and operation of the car park. While additional parking at this location would be desirable there currently are no funds available for the provision of same."

Cllr. Kinane referred to the response she had received about her Notice of Motion No. 14, which she did not consider satisfactory, and that she had raised this matter many times over the last 12 months. She said that, as An Garda Síochána have now started to issue fixed term parking offence fines, to users of this carpark. She said that this Council either seek an alternative carpark/site or construct a tiered car park at this location. She outlined that this carpark is reaching full capacity on a daily basis and that the Council need to engage with Irish Rail on this matter. She sought clarification on how the Council is going to address this matter and situation.

Cllr. M. Connolly supported Cllr. Kinane N.O.M, stating that this is a good example of the public using public transport and this has to be supported. He said that the Council needs to work and engage with Irish Rail and better parking facilities need to be provided at this railway station. Cllr. Carroll said that he could not understand how only one person using the carpark had received a parking fine.

Cllr. Charity supported Cllr. Kinane's N.O.M. and said that Oranmore Railway Station was a victim of its own success. He said solutions to this problem need to be presented to the members. He said he understood that a report was due to come before the members in relation to the issue of parking in Oranmore.

Cllr. Broderick referred to the amount of €1.3m funding outstanding from the TII. He asked the D.O.S. what was this funding linked to and could it be used for this propose.

Mr. Cullen replied that there is presently no funds available to construct another carpark. He outlined that the Roads Section have demands in all the MD areas for additional carparking to be provided, and that there is difficulty in trying to fund all of these demands. He said that he is in agreement that further carparking is needed at Garraun and that a master plan for the Garruan area is being prepared and will be considered by the Athenry/Oranmore M.D.

Mr. Kelly advised that the options for additional funding are being considered and Galway County Council has many proposals in planning, but that there is so only so much RRDF/URDF funding available.

Cllr. Kinane asked the Chief Executive what is the public to do if they receive parking fines at Oranmore Train Station and Mr. Kelly replied that if somebody parks inappropriately and receives a fine notice from the Gardaí, then they are liable to pay the fine issued.

Notice of Motion No. 15- Donagh Killilea

3546

Cllr. Killilea made the following proposal; "that Galway County Council instruct Irish Rail to remove the steel barriers erected at the railway crossing at Vicar Street, Tuam and at Abbeytrinity, Tuam, and that this should be done within 60 days of this notice. The barriers contravene our corporate plan and are also not compliant with planning"

The following written reply was issued to Cllr. Killilea:

"Galway County Council have been in discussions with Irish Rail on this matter. Irish Rail are considering their position and will revert in due course on the matter with a view to resolving the issue as soon as possible."

Notice of Motion No. 16 – Liam Carroll

3547

Cllr. Carroll made the following proposal; *“that Galway County Council in conjunction with Galway City Council and in consultation with the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) and Senior Fire Officers of Galway Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) examine the possibility and feasibility of locating the new Headquarters of Galway Fire and Rescue Services at the site of Galway Airport in Carnmore, which property is in joint ownership of both local authorities and consists of 115 acres of land. I am also proposing that, if possible and feasible, the Brigade Mechanic's Workshop which is a requirement of the Council's Safety Management System, also be located at this site. Both Councils are aware of the urgency in relation to identifying a new Headquarters for GFRS and the vital necessity of submitting a capital appraisal to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) for inclusion in the new National Capital Programme 2020 -2040”.*

The following written reply was issued to Cllr. Carroll:

Galway Fire & Rescue Service is a shared service delivered by Galway County Council on behalf of both Galway Local Authorities. The issue of a new Central Fire Station and Headquarters has been considered over a period of time and has been under active consideration in 2019 and work is ongoing in this regard.


Over a period of time a number of relevant matters have evolved including the publication and implementation of the new National policy document 'Keeping Communities Safe - A Framework for Fire Safety in Ireland' (2013), the development of the Area Risk Categorisation process, and the progression of the N6 Galway City Ring Road.

Having regard to operational requirements it is not considered that the former Galway Airport site would be a suitable location for a new Central Fire Station and Headquarters. This would include having regard to matters such as risk, incident data, travel time to incidents and percentage of population covered.

Chriochnaigh an Cruinniú Ansin.

Submitted Signed and Approved:

Cathaoirleach:



Date:

27/1/2020