

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
Held at ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PROSPECT HILL
Monday, 20th October at 1.00pm

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. D. Collins
Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Comh. /Cllr. S. Broderick, I. Canning, J. Charity, D. Connolly, M. Connolly, S. Cunniffe, T. Ó Curraoin, G. Donohue, P. Feeney, G. Finnerty, D. Geraghty, T. Grealish, A. Harney, L. Harney, M. Hoade, C. Keane, P. Keaveney, D. Kelly, D. Killilea, P. Killilea, M. Kinane, G. King, M. Lee, P. Mac An Iomaire, M. Maher, E. Mannion, J. McClearn, K. McHugh Farag, S. McHugh Ryan, E. F. Parsons, A. Reddington, M. Regan, N. Thomas, O. Turner, S. Walsh and T. Welby.

Baill ar líne: M. Leainde, M. McNamara.

Oifigh: Mr. L. Hanrahan, Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. M. Owens, Director of Services, Mr. U. Finn, Director of Services, Ms. E. Ruane, Director of Services, Ms. K. O'Connor, Director of Finance, Mr. D. Mitchell, Director of Services, Ms. L. Keady Meetings Administrator, Ms. H. Riordan, Staff Officer, Ms. L. O'Donnell, Assistant Staff Officer.

Thosnaigh an cruinniú leis an paidir.

ITEM NO.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS4603

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. D. Killilea **SECONDED** by Cllr. King the minutes of the Monthly Plenary Meeting held on 22nd September were **AGREED**.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- Members expressed frustration at the need to use separate devices to access the networks of different bodies they serve on, as nominated by the Council, and highlighted ongoing difficulties accessing the Council's IT system.
- Concerns were raised about the legitimacy of training emails issued by the IT department, with Members seeking clearer identification.
- Members requested that hard copies of meeting documentation be provided for plenary sessions.
- Disappointment was noted regarding ComReg's response to an invitation to address a plenary meeting; the correspondence was included in the meeting papers.
- Members queried which authority is responsible for ensuring the telecommunications universal service obligation is met, if not ComReg.
- The negative impact of poor communication networks on older people, businesses, and daily life was highlighted.
- Members reported that hedgerows are being cut too low, causing damage to large vehicles and forcing them into the centre of the road.
- A request was made for an update on the completion date for overlaying works in the Tuam Municipal District.
- Concerns were raised about dangerous roadside trees damaged in previous storms, and Members asked for progress on addressing these hazards.

- It was suggested that utility wiring be placed underground during overlaying works.
- Members stated that the 1993 Roads Act is outdated and requires review.
- It was proposed that funds currently used for hedge-cutting advertisements be redirected to directly notify landowners of their responsibilities.
- Members called for coordinated planning among all agencies to improve storm response.
- Members expressed concern that Uisce Éireann had not installed changeover switches, which contributed to water shortages during recent storms.
- Members called on the Minister for Health to address the restoration of maternity services at Portiuncula Hospital.
- It was stated that hospital management must act on the recommendations of the Walker and Sam Coulter-Smith reports.
- Members noted that there is currently no plan to restore maternity services and that no medical justification has been provided for their cessation.
- A brief report was requested from the Director on Minister James Browne's recent visit to Galway.
- Members asked whether the Department would facilitate faster delivery of housing.
- The Public Address (PA) system in the Chamber was reported as not functioning.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Ms. O'Connor

- The Council have undertaken a Cyber Security Audit, with its findings now being implemented and rolled out.
- She said that Members will be e-mailed in advance of a training request being e-mailed to them, to confirm legitimacy of the e-mail.
- The recent upgrade to Windows 11 will enhance system security and improve functionality in the Chamber and across Council systems
- Multi-Factor Authentication is a standard and necessary security practice.
- She invited the Members to contact the IT department with any problems they may have. She said that the IT staff could be made available to the Members prior to the start of plenary meetings.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by the Deputy Chief

Executive:

- Acknowledged that the response from Comreg to the Council's request that they attend a plenary meeting was less than satisfactory. He committed to issuing follow up correspondence to Comreg on request from the Members.
- The issues in respect of the Chamber PA system will be investigated.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Finn:

- The comments raised on hedge trimming will be considered at the next meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).
- The level of hedge cutting by Galway County Council is higher than other Local Authorities.
- He will follow up on the query regarding the completion date for overlaying works in the Tuam MD.
- A report on the findings following recent storms will be included in the November Management Report.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Mitchell:

- Details of Minister James Browne's recent visit are included in the October Management Report. The Minister encouraged message to the Council was to continue submitting housing applications, assuring ongoing departmental support.

The Cathaoirleach reminded Members that Uisce Éireann would present in the Chamber on Wednesday 22nd October for a scheduled Workshop and encouraged all Members to attend.

ITEM NO.2 CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 4604

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. P. Killilea the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 15th September 2025 were **NOTED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Cunniffe **SECONDED** by Cllr. Grealish the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 20th February 2025 were **NOTED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of L. Harney **SECONDED** by P. Killilea the minutes of the Climate, Heritage & Biodiversity Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 12th June 2025 were **NOTED**.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. McClearn the minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 13th June 2025 were **NOTED**.

It was agreed by the Members, following a recommendation from the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) that Galway County Council would hold a Civic Reception to honour the following:

- U16 Galway Camogie All-Ireland Champions 2025
- James and Conor Canavan, All Ireland Fleadh Champions.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- To consider commencing all plenary meetings at 1pm.

The Cathaoirleach informed Members that the matter would be discussed at the next meeting of the Corporate Policy Group (CPG). He advised that any proposed change would require a review of the Standing Orders and would be considered, in the first instance, by the CPG.

ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 TO TRANSFER 0.019 HECTARES OF LAND AT CILL RÁINE/BAILE UÍ CHUIRC THiar, MAIGH CUILINN, CO. NA GAILLIMHE. 4605

Statutory Notice issued in accordance with Section 183(1)(b) and report dated 10th October 2025 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. O Curraoín **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher it was **AGREED** to transfer 0.019 hectares of land at Cill Ráine/Baile Uí Chuirc, Maigh Cuilinn, Co. na Gaillimhe in accordance with the Statutory Notice dated 10th October 2025.

ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER REPORT UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 TO TRANSFER 0.845 HECTARES OF LAND AND A DWELLING AT BALLINDOOLEY, CO. GALWAY. 4606

Statutory Notice issued in accordance with Section 183(1)(b) and report dated 7th October 2025 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Charity **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hoade it was **AGREED** to transfer 0.845 hectares of land and a dwelling at Ballindooley. Co. Galway in accordance with Statutory Notice dated 7th October 2025.

ITEM NO. 5. TO CONSIDER A DATE AND TIME FOR BUDGET MEETING. 4607

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. McClearn **SECONDED** by Cllr. Hoade it was **AGREED** to hold the Budget Meeting on Friday 14th November at 1pm.

Ms. O'Connor informed Members that the final MD meeting to discuss the General Municipal Allocation, for the Ballinasloe MD will be held on 23rd October. A Budget Workshop for the Elected Members is scheduled for on the 28th October at 2pm in the Council Chamber. If required, an additional workshop can be arranged on 5th November, either as a full Council session or in breakout groups, depending on Members' preference. The Budget Book will be printed and circulated to the Members in advance of the Budget Meeting on 7th November. She reminded the Members in accordance with Standing Orders, that the Budget Meeting is an in-person meeting and there will not be the facility to attend online.

ITEM NO. 6 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). 4608

Report dated 13th October 2025 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. Lee it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs Welby and Cllr. Parsons to attend AILG Autumn Training Seminar 2025 at Westport Woods Hotel, Westport, Co. Mayo on 17th & 18th September 2025. (Retrospective Approval).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. L. Harney **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs L. Harney, Lee, Thomas, Mc Hugh Ryan, Donohue, Cunniffe and Mac An Iomaire to attend AILG Video Content Creation for Local Authority Members at Galway County Council on 24th September & Online 1st October 2025. (Retrospective Approval).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. L. Harney **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. L. Harney, Mc Clearn and Cunniffe, to attend AILG October

Training Module 'Local Authority Finance and Budget Process' at Arklow Bay Hotel on Thursday 9th October. (Retrospective Approval).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. L. Harney **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs. Welby, Hoade and King to attend to attend AILG October Training Module 'Local Authority Finance and Budget Process' at Horse & Jockey Hotel Tipperary on Saturday 11th October 2025. (Retrospective Approval).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. Regan it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs Finnerty, Regan, D. Killilea and Walsh to attend LAMA Autumn Training Seminar at Amber Springs Hotel, Gorey, Co. Wexford on Thursday 16th & Friday 17th October 2025. (Retrospective Approval).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. L. Harney **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs Welby and Hoade to attend AILG November Training Module – DHLGH, OPR and CCMA Briefing on Updated Planning Legislation & Guidelines at Radisson Blu Hotel, Athlone on Saturday 15th November 2025.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. L. Harney **SECONDED** by Cllr. Maher it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllr. Cunniffe to attend AILG November Training Module – DHLGH, OPR and CCMA Briefing on Updated Planning Legislation & Guidelines at Ravenport Resort (Wexford) on Thursday 13th November 2025.

ITEM NO. 7 TO CONSIDER AND IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE AUTHORISE THE ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCE, MEETINGS OTHER EVENTS IN

ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 142(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

2001 (AS AMENDED).

4609

Report dated 13th October 2025 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. Finnerty it was **AGREED** to authorise Cllrs Reddington and Collins to attend Celtic Conferences – “A Practical Guide to Budget 2026” at the Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth on Friday 10th, Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th October 2025. (Retrospective Approval).

ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER THE MANAGEMENT REPORT – OCTOBER 2025 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 136(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 (AS AMENDED). **4610**

Report was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

The Management Report – October 2025, in accordance with Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 (As Amended) was **NOTED**.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- An update on the delay in rolling out Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) was requested, noting its urgent need in Ballinasloe.
- The recent Communication Strategy Workshop was welcomed.
- A suggestion was made to establish a system to notify Elected Members when a staff member experiences a bereavement.
- A Member commented that responsibility for illegal coal sales should rest with the seller, not the haulier. They expressed concern that roadside checkpoints targeting transporters are unfair.
- A Member raised concern about the inclusion of a company's name in road safety literature as promoting the services of specific companies by the Council is unfair on other rate payers.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Ms. Ruane:

- Advised that she will follow up directly with the Ballinasloe Municipal District regarding the timeline for the rollout of CCTV, in response to the request for an update.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by the Deputy Chief Executive:

- The Road Safety Literature will be reviewed.

- It was noted that the roadside checkpoint in question involved multiple types of inspections. One of these included verifying that companies held the appropriate waste permits.

ITEM NO. 9 TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL FLAG AND SPECIAL LIGHTING PROTOCOL. **4611**

Report dated September 2025 was published on the Extranet prior to the meeting.

Mr. Owens spoke on the Draft Galway County Council Flag and Special Lighting Protocol. The protocol was previously before the Members at the June 2025 Plenary Meeting. Issues raised at the meeting were considered further by the SPC. The draft Protocol is now recommended for approval by both the Corporate Services and Rural, Community & Tourism Development & Integration SPC and the CPG. The purpose of the Protocol is to ensure that flags displayed on Galway County Council civic buildings are flown correctly and respectfully in recognition of those being honoured. The Protocol will take effect from the date of adoption by the Plenary Council and will not affect any prior resolution passed by Galway County Council or it's Municipal District(s) regarding the flying of flags. He provided the Members with an overview of the draft Protocol.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- A Member requested that the Council publish the Government's national guidelines for displaying the Irish flag in local newspapers, to help promote awareness and ensure the flag is shown appropriate respect.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Owens:

- Undertook to consult with the Department of the Taoiseach regarding the official guidelines for displaying the Irish flag and confirmed that it can be circulated within the media if the Members wish.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Maher **SECONDED** by Cllr. Charity the Draft Galway County Council Flag and Special Lighting Protocol was **AGREED**.

ITEM NO. 10 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE. 4612

The following items of correspondence which were published on the extranet prior to the meeting were **NOTED**:

- Letter dated 12.09.25 from Carlow County Council – Resolution – opposition to increase in college fees.
- Letter dated 18.09.25 from Kerry County Council – Resolution – Ban on Vaping in Workplaces.
- Letter dated 18.09.25 from Sligo County Council – Resolution – Supporting Town and City Gift Card.
- Letter dated 24.09.25 to all Oireachtas Members in Galway East, Galway West and Oireachtas Members – Resolution Letter – Portiuncula Hospital.
- Email dated 25.09.25 – Reply to Resolution Letter from Deputy Sean Canney.
- Email dated 25.09.25 – Acknowledgement of Resolution Letter from Anne Whelan, Administrative Assistant to Senator Anne Rabbitte.
- Email dated 25.09.25 – Acknowledgement of Resolution Letter from Hildegard Naughton.
- Letter dated 26.09.25 – Reply to Resolution Letter from Deputy Pete Roche, Galway East.
- Letter dated 25.09.25 from Roscommon County Council – Resolution – Waive Commencement Notice fees.
- Letter dated 24.09.25 - Resolution Letter to COMREG – Invite to attend Plenary Meeting.
- Letter dated 30.09.25 – Reply from Garrett Blaney, Chairperson Commission for Communications Regulation to Resolution - Reply – Invite to COMREG.
- Letter dated 24.09.25 – Resolution letter to Minister for Housing & Local Government, James Browne – Renewable Energy Development Regulations.
- Email dated 03.10.25 from Jack Savage – Private Secretary to Mr. James Browne, Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage.
- Letter dated 26.09.25 from Limerick City & County Council – Resolution – Support IACP's Budget 2026 Priorities.

- Letter dated 30.09.25 from Limerick City & County Council – Resolution – Compensation for loss of livelihoods due to Ash dieback.
- Letter dated 03.10.25 from Wexford County Council – Resolution – Ash Die back situation on roads.
- Letter dates 24.09.25 – Resolution Letter to Uisce Éireann – Measure 178 MARWP.
- Email dated 06.10.25 – from Tanya Doyle, Local Representative Support, Uisce Éireann – Reply to Resolution letter re Measure 178 MARWP.
- Letter dated 09.10.25 from Monaghan County Council – Resolution – Prioritise safeguarding across Health and Social Care Sector.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- Item 9 under Correspondence – a letter from Roscommon County Council regarding the waiving of commencement notice fees was referred to. It was asked if the Council could support this motion.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Deputy Chief Executive:

- We will liaise with Roscommon County Council and establish if they received a response from the Minister. If they did it will be included in the Correspondence for the November plenary meeting.

The Deputy Chief Executive, Mr. Hanrahan reminded the Members of the upcoming Corporate Governance Training Day, scheduled for Monday 3rd November at 09:00 in the Raheen Woods Athenry. The training will cover key topics including Data Protection, GDPR, Code of Conduct of Governance and role of the Members in budget approval. He strongly encouraged all Members to attend.

ITEM 11. QUESTION Cllr. Paul Killilea

4613

Cllr. Killilea submitted the following question to the meeting:

'To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the proposed Baywalk Project in Kinvara that has been explored to link Dungaluaire Castle to Kinvara village:

- 1. What is expenditure to date including the land purchase adjacent to the N67 in Kinvara.*
- 2. Copy of site investigation report*
- 3. Copy of detailed costings relating to the project*
- 4. Copy of drawings relating to said costings*
- 5. Copy of Ecological Report*
- 6. Breakdown of costs of castle reopening.'*

The following reply issued:

In relation to the above it is proposed that a workshop meeting will be held between the relevant staff and the Loughrea Municipal District Councillors.

There is quite extensive information requested, I can confirm that the information requested can be provided. The Loughrea Municipal District co-ordinator will follow up to arrange such a meeting.

With regards to Dungaluaire Castle. The Castle and grounds need extensive repairs and modernisation to continue serving as a premier tourist attraction on the Wild Atlantic Way. A due diligence and technical assessment process undertaken by Galway County Council identified significant structural and safety issues that require immediate attention at an estimated cost of €5 million. This includes construction works, professional fees, fit-out costs together with the costs of addressing the flood risk at the site and providing appropriate parking.

Galway County Council is continuing to engage with relevant Government Departments, including the Department of Enterprise, Tourism and Employment, with a view to securing the necessary funding to undertake the works and facilitate the transfer of the Castle to Galway County Council. However, the window to secure this site as a publicly owned and accessible world-class heritage destination is

narrowing. Galway County Council, without Government funding, is not able to assume ownership, and therefore the castle will remain closed to the public, with the potential for further deterioration and long-term costs. This would represent a significant missed opportunity for regional tourism, job creation, and cultural preservation—not only for Kinvara and County Galway, but for the wider Western Region.

Cllr. P. Killilea spoke on this motion. He was astounded at the cost of works required to restore Dunguaire Castle, as it was open as recently as 2022. The longer it is closed, the more it will cost to repair it. He added that there is already a carpark across the road from the Castle.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- The importance of the Castle in terms of tourism and employment to the local community was raised.
- The Baywalk element of the works is essential to keep people from walking on the side of the road, as this is a serious health and safety issue.
- Are there insurance implications from the number of visitors still visiting the closed castle.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by the Deputy Chief

Executive:

- Shannon Development is the current owner of Dunguaire Castle, though it no longer holds a tourism remit. Responsibility, including Insurance for the site, remains with Shannon Development until ownership is formally transferred.
- Galway County Council was required to carry out due diligence prior to any transfer of ownership. This process identified the need for significant capital investment, and the findings have been formally relayed to the Department.
- The Council is not in a position to take ownership until capital funding is provided by central government, similar to the support received by Limerick and Clare County Councils for St. John's Castle and Bunratty Castle.

ITEM 12. NOTICE OF MOTION

4614

Cllr. Geraldine Donohue submitted the following Notice of Motion prior to the meeting:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Donohue **SECONDED** by Cllr. M. Connolly the Members **AGREED:**

'Galway County Council support the Irish Post Masters' Union and call on the Government to commit to investing €15million annually in the Irish Post Office Network. Post Offices need to continue delivering vital services and promoting community well-being and local economic development'

The Members agreed to accept the motion and the Cathaoirleach confirmed that the motion was carried.

ITEM 13. NOTICE OF MOTION

4615

Comh. Pdraig Mac an Iomaire submitted the following Notice of Motion prior to the meeting:

'I will propose Galway County Council purchase the houses for sale by Tearmann Eanna in Eannach Mheain and Ros a Mhíl to be used for social & affordable housing'

The following reply issued:

I can confirm that the Department of Housing have requested Galway County Council to instruct Tearmann Éanna to pause the sale of the properties at Eanach Mheáin and Ros an Mhíl to allow the Department of Housing to review all the associated documentation and consider all potential solutions.

The Department contacted Galway County Council last Thursday 9th Oct seeking additional information to help resolve these developments.

Galway Co Co are currently preparing a response to the Departments request.

Comh. Man An Iomaire thanked the Director for the response to his motion. The people of the local area are eager for houses to be provided for the people of Conemara and this is a great opportunity to do so. There was support from Members of the Conamara MD.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Comh. Mac An Iomaire **SECONDED** by Cllr. Lee the above motion was **AGREED**.

ITEM NO. 14 CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

4616

Members raised the following points and queries:

- All Members were urged to attend the Uisce Éireann workshop being held the following day and to submit any queries in advance to the Physical Development Department.
- Disappointment was voiced towards Uisce Éireann, as they did not respond to questions that were raised at their previous briefing.
- Where water meters are removed from farms, standing charges should automatically cease.
- An update was sought on the request from the Ballinasloe MD that there be one-hour free parking in Ballinasloe.
- It was asked why those that failed to implement the recommendations of the Walker Report have not been held accountable.
- A Member raised concern about a lack of response from Council officials to queries from Elected Members.
- Every town and village should have speed cameras installed. Costings should be acquired for this.
- It was asked where the responsibility to keep rivers clean lies.
- Who enforces the control of water flowing from fields onto the roads or from the roads onto driveways.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Finn:

- The responsibility of rivers depends on the class of river, however 90% are the responsibility of the landowner to maintain.
- Legally, water should not run from the land to the road, it can drain into land from the road.
- The proposal to introduce a free parking element in Ballinasloe was considered at the SPC. However, there was not a consensus from SPC Members to amend the parking fees for paid parking in County Galway. The proposal to introduce provisions for care workers was also discussed and there was consensus on this matter. Therefore, the Executive has committed to bring a proposal back to the SPC for further consideration in regard to provision for care workers.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Deputy Chief Executive:

- The Director confirmed that he will follow up directly with Cllr. Regan to discuss his specific experience in relation to a lack of response.

Members raised the following points and queries:

- Will Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) carry out flood risk assessment on the N59.
- Weakened trees and hanging Electricity Supply Board (ESB) and Eir poles are of concern.
- Could sandbag hubs be set up for the community.
- Landowners in Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) areas are prohibited from carrying out storm relief works without planning permission.
- Does a landowner need permission to clean streams.
- When were parking byelaws last updated and what is the procedure to update them.
- It was suggested that other schemes could be implemented in Ballinasloe to help local businesses.

- The aim of Local Government Task force is to strengthen the MD. The MD should be able to set aside its own resources as it sees fit.
- Marconi Men's Shed in Clifden and Clarenbridge Tidy Towns were wished the best of luck in IPB Pride of Place competition on 7th November.
- The sod turning for new community Centre in Moycullen was welcomed.

Members Queries were responded to as follows by Mr. Finn:

- The Council engaged with the emergency services to advise them of any blocked roads during the storm.
- The storm response will be included in the November Management Report
- The ESB have plans to make the network more robust.
- If there are any trees of particular concern, he asked the Members to inform the MD offices.
- In relation to pay parking, there is no proposal to revise the pay parking Bye-Laws for the County of Galway. This is based on the report brought to the SPC and the consensus from SPC Members. Should Members wish to consider this matter further, they should raise their concerns with the members of the Physical Development, Fire and Emergency Services SPC, where it can be discussed at the upcoming SPC meeting in December.
- He will discuss the flooding issues raised with TII.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that the minutes of the Physical Development, Fire & Emergency Services SPC, where the bye-laws were previously discussed, were noted by Members at the September 2025 meeting.

The Deputy Chief Executive referred to Standing Order 26, which states that no motion to revoke or amend a resolution of Council may appear on the Agenda within six months of its adoption, unless supported in writing by at least 20 Members.

Additionally, Standing Order 27 confirms that any matter decided by Council cannot be re-opened within six months unless the conditions of Standing Order 26 are met.

As the motion was raised within six months of the original resolution and fewer than 20 Members were present in the Chamber, it could not be considered at this plenary meeting.

It was also clarified that policy decisions of this nature must be made at SPC level and not at Municipal District level.

Cllr. Donohue indicated her intention to submit a Notice of Motion (NOM).

The Cathaoirleach advised that, in accordance with Standing Order 28, a motion may only be proposed without notice to deal with urgent Council business if a majority of Members present approve its consideration, and not less than 20 Members vote in favour of its adoption.

As these conditions could not be met at the meeting, it was agreed that the Notice of Motion would be included on the November agenda, allowing the Executive time to consider the proposal in advance and provide a written response.

ITEM NO. 15 VOTES OF SYMPATHY / CONGRATULATIONS

4617

Congratulations were conveyed to the Oranmore Maree GAA club on their recent successes with the Minor A Hurling and Football teams, the Under 19A Football team and the Under 20A Hurling team.

A resolution of sympathy was extended to the following:

- Loretto Duggan, Ahaclare, Broadford, Co. Clare
- Mary Fahy, Gortnasteir, Gort, Co. Galway.
- Michael Noone, Inchaboy, Gort, Co. Galway
- Michael Lynch, Eyrecourt, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway
- Jimmy Dervan, Dartfield, Kilrickle, Loughrea, Co. Galway
- Eilín Brennan, Cor-na-Ron, Inverin, Co. Galway
- Bernie, Denny & Paul, Murphy Cordarra, Headford, Co. Galway
- Maggie Coyne, Tullycross, Renvyle, Co. Galway

- Bernie O Connor, Renville, Oranmore, Co. Galway
- Councillor Josie Forde, 240 Corrib Park, Westside, Galway
- Dermot & Jean Connolly, Crossford, Gort, Co. Galway

Chriochnaigh an Cruinniú Ansin.

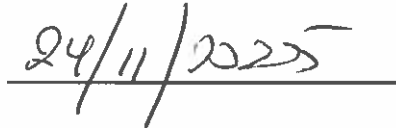
Submitted, Signed and Approved

Cathaoirleach:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. O'Connor', written over a horizontal line.

Date:



A handwritten date '24/11/2025' written over a horizontal line.