

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TUAM HELD AT  
THE OFFICES OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TUAM, TUAM, COUNTY GALWAY  
ON MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> May AT 2.00pm.**

<b>CATHAOIRLEACH:</b>	Cllr. McHugh Farag
<b>I LÁTHAIR FREISIN</b>	Cllr. Cunniffe, Cllr. Killilea, Cllr. Hoade, Cllr. Reddington, Cllr McHugh Ryan, Cllr. Turner attended remotely.
<b>AS LÁTHAIR</b>	
<b>BAIL OIFIGIGH:</b>	Mr. Michael Owens, D.O.S., Mr. Conrad Harley - SE, Mr. John Coyle – SEE, Mr. Sean Kennedy – EE, Mr. Peter Lally – EE, T.J. Redmond – SEE, Geraldine Byrne, Meeting Administrator, Ms. Sinéad Naughton – Staff Officer.

Cllr. McHugh Farag opened the meeting by raising a condolence for Willi Kiefel of Steinach Germany and Parkview Drive, Tuam who was instrumental in the twinning of Tuam town with Straubing. Cllr. Killilea spoke of his background and the impact he had on Tuam town and the local economy, referring to him as a staunch supporter of community always and said that he had a great legacy left behind.

Each elected member expressed their sympathies and Mr. Owens wished to be associated with same on behalf of the executive. A five-minute suspension of the meeting followed as a mark of respect for Mr. Kiefel, RIP.

As proposed by Cllr. Hoade and seconded by Cllr. McHugh Ryan the standing orders were suspended to allow item no. 3 to be heard first.

**MDT260018**

**3 – Active Travel and Bus Stop Programme updates.**

T.J. Redmond, SEE presented a draft plan of the Headford Community Transport Study to the Elected Members which identified challenges in the town inviting members to come back to him with feedback. He said further consultation would be required but the study examined areas such as safer connected routes, improved access, upgrading footpaths, clearer safer walkway routes, improved bus stops, traffic calming measures and potential to divert traffic with a proposed bypass.

Cllr. Reddington referred to EV charging points and questioned why ducting is not installed whenever putting in new infrastructure. Mr. Harley advised that Zero emissions Vehicles Ireland (ZEV) is a dedicated team within TII that are developing a strategy for EV charging and will identify locations examining the whole county in entirety.

Cllr. Reddington referred to the potential bypass of Headford and pointed out that the Mart referred to is owned privately. He thanked the owners for allowing access through the road and said a discussion would have to take place with shareholders. Cllr. Hoade concurred with Cllr. Reddington's comments on the Mart Road and said previous Galway County Council employees held discussions in relation to the issue of access and asked if any alternative may be available.

Cllr. Hoade queried how long the process would take. She requested that an open evening was held for members of the public, business owners and schools stressing the importance of public consultation.

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She questioned if there were any plans for alternative parking expressing concerns for access to the centre of the town to those not able to walk a longer distance.

Mr. Redmond advised that the first step was to identify the requirements. Mr. Harley said the study will gather all ideas and viable options in one place considering what can be done to make Headford better.

Cllr. McHugh Ryan questioned why delivery should be 5-10 years. Mr. Redmond said not all aspects would take that duration, some improvements could be delivered faster and Mr. Hardley advised that timelines may extend if engagement with TII is required

Cllr. Hoade sought clarification on whether the plan could be formally adopted following public consultation and whether implementation could then begin. Mr. Coyle advised that the process mirrors the Tuam Masterplan model, where the fundamental structure for the town is established first. He explained that, for Headford, the team would identify and evaluate options based on that existing framework and then decide which elements will move forward into delivery.

Mr. Redmond gave the members a briefing on other active travel projects that are ongoing referencing three safe routes to school's projects at Corrandrum, Milltown and Kilcoona.

He stated that the Dublin Road project is at preliminary design stage being finalised to give to the NTA and that a Section 38 will then follow with public consultation and a workshop for the Councillors.

He advised works were ongoing with implementation of bus stops at Dunmore and O'Toole Road Tuam

**MDT260019**

**On the proposal of Cllr. Killilea seconded by Cllr. McHugh Farag the following motion was agreed I propose; -**

That Galway County Council put a bus shelter at the area of the official Bus Stop on the O Toole Road.

**MDT260020**

**On the proposal of Cllr. Hoade seconded by Cllr. McHugh Ryan the following motion was agreed I propose; -**

That we request a bus shelter be provided at Corofin and Corrudrum on the N83 and that we seek support from the NTA for same.

Cllr. McHugh Farag queried the possibility of a bus stop at Brownsgrrove and asked that Lavally National School were considered under the safe routes to school's programme.

The elected members thanked Mr. Redmond for his presentation.

**MDT260021**

### **1 – Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting of Municipal District of Tuam held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

On the **proposal** of Cllr. Reddington and **seconded** by Cllr. Hoade the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 were **agreed**.

### **Matters Arising**

Cllr. Killilea welcomed Dr. Oluwatumininu Adebayo a political intern to the meeting who is working with him for 6 weeks

Cllr. Reddington and Cllr. Hoade thanked Mr. Owens for organising the public consultation for Headford Courthouse, noting the event went very well. Mr. Owens described the session as a positive engagement with approximately thirty attendees representing various organisations. He confirmed ongoing engagement with the OPW regarding the title and acknowledged the contributions of Eimear Dolan, AO, and Ronan Mannion, EE.

Cllr. Cunniffe requested an update on the existing two-hour parking in Tuam and reiterated traders' request to increase it to 3 hours. Mr. Harley reported he spoke with Tom Prendergast, SE, and that the matter will be reviewed countywide. Cllr. Cunniffe asked for the Tuam review to be expedited and for the change to be progressed as a reserved function of the Tuam MD. It was agreed to place the item on the next MD meeting agenda. Mr. Owens advised members that he did not envisage that a direction on the matter would be necessary, acknowledging that the car park bye-laws were a reserved function and that the proposal was revenue neutral.

Cllr. Killilea asked why the NRPO were not making a presentation on safety works. Mr. Owens advised that he had reverted as requested after the last meeting and was advised that there is currently no road safety projects currently ongoing in Tuam MD.

Cllr. Killilea called for realignment to be conducted in Belclare/Claretuam on the R333 stating it was in a worrying state and a cause of concern in the area.

Mr. Coyle advised that a report was conducted by consultants and that once Kilbannon Realignment was completed they would seek funding under a specific improvement scheme and would consider options for Belclare.

Cllr. Killilea queried why it was necessary for National Broadband Ireland to carry out works twice in Belclare. Mr. Coyle advised that when the original reinstatement was inspected and issues arose from which the contractor was required to redo the works. Cllr. Killilea asked if certification should be required and Mr. Coyle said that it was on foot of the requirements of the road opening licence that it was requested to be redone. Mr Harley said this shows that the process in place works and commended engineering staff in Tuam, showing it is a robust and airtight system.

**MDT260022**

### **2 – Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting of Municipal District of Tuam held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.**

On the **proposal** of Cllr. McHugh Ryan and **seconded** by Cllr. Reddington the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Tuam held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 were **agreed**.

### **Matters Arising**

Cllr. McHugh Ryan referred to the hard shoulder on N83 from Belclare into Tuam is impassable, she said it is unacceptable that it has such a bad surface. Mr. Coyle advised that it is a national road and he had gone through requirements with the NRPO and TII and it is part of a 3-year National roads programme. Mr. Coyle said over the last years they have identified numerous schemes requesting overlays with no funding forthcoming. He said that twenty cases across the county that have been surveyed and will all be ready to commence when funding becomes available.

**MDT260023**

**4 – The Abbeylands Estate, Dunmore, Co. Galway – Taking in Charge (Declaration of a road to be a public road) under S11 of the Roads Act 1993.**

On the **proposal** of Cllr. Turner and **seconded** by Cllr. McHugh Ryan it was **agreed that Abbeylands Estate, Dunmore Co Galway** would be declared a public road;

Description:

**Abbeylands Estate, Dunmore, Co Galway**

**Point A-B**

- Road commencing at its junction with the N83 in the townland of ABBEYLAND NORTH and extending east for a distance of 169M and ending at point B in the Townland of MONEENPOLLAGH

In accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (As Amended), and under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993.

**MDT260024**

**5. - Municipal District of Tuam Director's Business**

Mr. Owens advised that the application for the redevelopment of the Shambles has been submitted for funding under the Town and Cities Regeneration fund, which has replaced the previous URDF funding stream.

Mr. Owens referred to a proposal to dispose of lands at Parkmore for information purposes and said as it is a Section 183 will be a matter for plenary.

Mr. Coyle advised that that Harrington has been successful and awarded contract for the overlaying tenders.

Mr. Coyle advised that the N84 Currandrum to Grange overlay was awaiting final approval from TII.

Cllr. Killilea asked if contractors have been appointed for Tuam Town Hall, Mr. Owens said he would seek an update from the regeneration team and revert, but that the contract has not yet been awarded as there is a title issue to be resolved.

Cllr. Killilea asked if there was any update on Bridge Street, Dunmore. Mr. Harley said there would be a workshop after today's meeting, and they were hoping to progress a number of smaller route safety schemes while waiting for the bigger scheme to progress.

**MDT260025**

**6. - Municipal District of Tuam Cathaoirleach's Business**

Cllr. McHugh thanked everyone for their support and cooperation over the past 12 months, noting that this would be her final MD meeting as Cathaoirleach before the Annual Meeting in June.

She referred to the remarkable success of the opening of Tuam's Sensory Garden, the Basketball Court, and the Green Flags at the Palace Grounds on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026. She said it was a fantastic day and acknowledged the huge work body of completed and said it was a credit to all involved. Mr. Owens echoed her sentiments and thanked all involved. He said it was clear that the park has a significant role

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at the heart of Tuam and he commended all involved on the success of Africa Day held there on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

The Women's Shed were acknowledged for their magnificent work and Mr. Owens said they have been nominated for an award under "Pride of Place". He also advised that the various initiatives delivered in the Palace Grounds also formed the basis of an application for the Excellence in Local Government Awards.

The councillors all commended the great works done and expressed thanks to all involved. Cllr. McHugh Farag described the Palace Grounds as the Jewell in Tuams Crown.

**MDT260026**

### **7. - Notice of Motions**

- a. That Galway County Council would start the process of getting a pedestrian bridge going from O Toole Road into the swimming pool park area. The bridge that takes traffic is too narrow and is a hazard to both drivers and walkers alike. Bus drivers are stating that it is difficult to enter and exit the area.

Mr. Coyle advised that Galway County Council are currently looking at an initial, indicative scope for the Tuam Park Project Development measure, which is focused on progressing a wider walking/cycling loop with the park as a key focal point and includes the potential to develop a feasibility study/masterplan to guide future enhancements. It may also feature under a low-cost safety option. He said they will examine all options and see what funding may apply.

Mr. Owens advised that the Capital Delivery Team are reviewing option of submitting a proposal under the forthcoming round of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS).

- b. That Galway County Council put a bus stop at the area of the official Bus Stop on the O Toole Road.

This NOM was discussed as part of the previous AT presentation.

Cllr. Cunniffe submitted a motion on behalf of LGFA, he advised that they are in crisis with no facility across the county for training could be any location from Clifden to Glenamaddy. He said they have been fundraising for years and cannot acquire land.

**MDT260027**

**On the proposal of Cllr. Cunniffe seconded by Cllr. Reddington the following motion was agreed I propose; -**

That in the light of Galway LGFA communication with Councillors explaining the urgent need to serve land to develop a Centre of Excellence for the promotion of ladies football in Galway, that we support Galway LGFA's request that circa 25 acres of the publicly owned Galway Airport site be allocated for community and sporting purposes and allocated to Galway LGFA as a community dividend. They currently own no land or premises, and this is making the management and promotion of ladies' football practically impossible, we wish to support their incredible works that has such a positive effect on girls and ladies throughout Galway.

Mr. Owens acknowledged his comments and said there is a need and benefit for the appropriate facility. He advised, however, that the site is jointly owned by Galway County Council and Galway City Council and that in the context of Galway County Council it is a matter within the remit of Plenary by way of reserved function under Section 183. In the event that the Tuam MD wishes they can make a

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recommendation to plenary for consideration at the appropriate time. He outlined that as previously advised by the Chief Executive at plenary level, a process is underway in relation to expressions of interest and the suggestion will be considered in this context noting also that policy objectives in the County Development Plan in relation to the site is economic development and not currently amenity use.

### **Any Other Business**

Cllr. Cunniffe asked what the situation in relation to Tuam Graveyard is, how many spaces remain or when it is anticipated it may be full. He referred to current proposal for a Muslim graveyard and asked what will happen in future if there is need to expand the cemetery or were any alternative locations considered. A discussion followed in relation to facilitating of future burials and it was advised that there have been adjoining lands made available for when required,

Cllr. Killilea proposed Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June and the date for the AGM and this was seconded by Cllr. Reddington, and agreed by all, it was also agreed to hold an MD meeting directly after.

Cllr. Killilea proposed a vote of sympathy for the late Michale Lyster RIP, Vincent Roche RIP (brother of Peter Roche) and Mr. Gabriel Duddy, RIP.

*Chríochnaigh an cruinniú ansin @ 16:15*

Approved by:

Mary Hoade

An Cathaoirleach.

Date: 8/6/2026