

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY ON WEDNESDAY 13th MAY 2026 AT 2.00 p.m.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr. P. Keaveney

I LATHAIR FREISIN:

Baill: Cllrs. D. Connolly, M. Connolly, D. Geraghty, A. Harney, E. Parsons

Oifigigh: Mr. D. Mitchell Director of Service, Mr. P. Batty Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. P. McLynn Executive Engineer, Ms. M. Dolan Assistant Staff Officer, Ms. A. Spelman Meetings Administrator.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BALLINASLOE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15th APRIL 2026 **MDB**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Ballinasloe held on Wednesday 15th April 2026 were approved by the Municipal District Members and signed by the Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Cllr. M. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. D. Geraghty.

Cllr. Parsons sought clarification regarding the current projected completion date for the Ballinasloe Flood Relief Scheme referenced under MDB26026 on Page 2. It was confirmed this should read "August 2030".

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES **MDB**

- Cllr. D. Geraghty asked for an update regarding additional bus shelters in the Ballinasloe Municipal District.
- Cllr. D. Geraghty referenced recent price decreases on the cost of fuel and asked for an update on the impact this would have on the delivery of the Roads Programme.
- Cllr. D. Connolly and Cllr. M. Connolly stressed the need to meet with Oireachtas members to seek additional funding for the Roads Programme, following on from reports of other local authorities receiving top-up funding to deal with the aftereffects of storm damage in recent months.
- Cllr. Keaveney agreed and stated that patching roads is not a viable option in some cases.
- Cllr. Harney agreed in regard to patching roads and asked if an application for additional funding for the Roads Programme was made to the Department.

- Mr. Batty to follow up on a response in regard to additional bus shelters and will forward reply to the Members when he receives same.
- Mr. Batty stated that tenders have been awarded for the Roads Programme and prices will remain as was agreed at the time of tender.
- In response to Cllrs. Harney and Parsons, Mr. Batty confirmed that a cleanup of vegetation at the playground will be organised. He advised that the Corporate Services Department have been contacted regarding the issue of graffiti.
- In response to Cllrs. Harney and Parsons, Mr. Batty advised that funding of €50,000 was received for the upgrade of the playground. He outlined the repairs that had been carried out and added that playground equipment is very expensive.
- Cllr. Parsons asked if there was any response to the letter issued to Mr. Tony Canavan, HSE West, in regard to the reinstatement of maternity services at Portiuncula University Hospital. Mr. Mitchell confirmed that no response had been received to date.
- Cllr. Parsons asked if an application for additional resources in regard to CCTV had been submitted. Mr. Mitchell advised that he will request an update from the Environment Department in regard to same.
- Cllrs. D. Connolly, Harney and Parsons highlighted ongoing antisocial behaviour in housing estates and the urgent need for the rollout of CCTV. Mr. Mitchell advised of the role of an Garda Síochána in regard to protocol for the rollout of CCTV and stated that work is ongoing in relation to same.
- Cllr. Harney asked that additional enforcement measures are put in place via Council resources in regard to tenancy issues and waste issues, in the interim.
- In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Batty confirmed that the road between Cappataggle and Kilconnell had been assessed and there was no need to seek additional funding from the DOE for works.
- In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Batty clarified that the lights at the pedestrian crossing at Creagh would be repaired as an interim measure and they would also be included within the scope of the Creagh Junction Consultants Brief.

UPDATE ON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

MD8

Mr. Batty presented an update on Municipal District Activities to the members. The members thanked Mr. Batty for his update.

- Cllr. M. Connolly asked for an update in regard to funding and planning for the low-cost safety scheme for Mountbellew Town and Menlough Village and said it was necessary that the Council push forward on these projects.
- Cllr. Parsons said it was important to consider the need to reduce speed in Menlough Village.

- In response to Cllr. Harney, Mr. Batty advised that preparation of the Consultants Brief for Creagh Junction will commence in June.
- In response to Cllr. Harney and Cllr. D. Connolly, Mr. Batty said he is aware of issues in relation to grass cutting around the town and is liaising with the contractor to ensure the work is completed in a more effective manner going forward.
- In response to Cllr. Harney, Mr. Batty suggested that the Council may be able to compensate in regard to funding for the Bunowen and Suck Drainage Districts.
- In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Mitchell said he will liaise with the HR Department in regard to staffing levels within the MD.
- In response to Cllr. Parsons, Mr. Batty confirmed that provision will be made for a disabled toilet as part of the public toilet upgrade project at St. Michael's Square.
- Cllr. D. Connolly said the ramps on the L4602, going into Poolboy, are extreme and asked that they are assessed with a view to reconfiguring them.
- Cllr. D. Connolly noted that a section of the wall was not reconstructed between Meadowbrook estate and the newly constructed estate and asked that this work is done. Mr. Mitchell said he will check the planning conditions on the new estate.
- Cllr. Keaveney asked about funding for private bridges. Mr. Batty advised that funding for improvements to private bridges for carrying loads is not provided through drainage district allocations or under DOT bridge grants for bridges on public roads.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE DIRECTOR'S BUSINESS

MDB

- Mr. Mitchell advised of a community meeting on natural water quality taking place in Gullane's Hotel, Ballinasloe, on the 14th of May 2026 and an affordable housing information evening detailing affordable purchase homes in Athenry taking place in the Raheen Woods Hotel, Athenry, on the 14th of May 2026.
- Cllr. D. Connolly said the prices of houses available under the Affordable Housing Scheme is not very affordable to many and asked if the Council can do anything to change this.
- Cllr. Harney asked for a timeline of when these houses will be available.
- Mr. Mitchell stated that market values dictate the price of houses. He will keep the members updated regarding the progress of same.
- Mr. Mitchell gave an update regarding works being undertaken at St. Bridgid's Hospital. He said that the site will be advertised on the open market following completion of works. He said an estate agent has not been appointed yet.
- Cllr. D. Connolly said it is disappointing to see this site going on the open market and referenced the minimal land pool that the Council have.
- Cllrs. Parsons and Harney expressed disappointment at the failure by the HSE on a regional level to allow the site to be placed on the open market.

- Cllr. Harney referenced the use of the lands which are primarily zoned as Community Facilities and stated that the Council need to ensure that this remains the case.
- Cllr. Parsons enquired if the Council are pursuing interest in the purchase of the Nurses Home. Mr. Mitchell advised that discussions are ongoing.
- Mr. Mitchell read a report which he received from the ESB. The Members were thankful for this update but noted that it mainly referenced Ballinasloe North.
- Cllr. Parsons asked that an update from ESB regarding Ballinasloe South is provided to the Members. Mr. Mitchell asked that the Members formulate the queries they have and he will refer same to the ESB.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BALLINASLOE CATHAOIRLEACH'S BUSINESS

MDB

None arising.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS

MDB

Votes of Sympathy

The Smyth Family on the passing of Mary Smyth, Abbeytown, Roscommon
The Lyons Family on the passing of John Lyons, Cooloo, Moylough
The Dolan Family on the passing of William Dolan, Beechlawn, Ballinasloe
The Fahy Family on the passing of Brendan Fahy, Curragh Park, Ballinasloe
The Moore Family on the passing of Sr. Therese (Vianney) Moore Glenamaddy, Galway
The Duignan Family on the passing of Bill Duignan, Kilsallagh, Ballymoe, Galway
The Mannion and Doyle Families on the passing of Marie Mannion Doyle, St. Brendan's, Ballygar, Galway
The Harris Family on the passing of Bina (Sabina) Harris, Corlackin, Creggs, Galway
The Noone Family on the passing of Matt Noone, Rookhill, Ballinamore Bridge, Galway
The Barlow Family on the passing of Tommy Barlow, Glinsk, Galway

Votes of Congratulation

Congratulations to the Glenamaddy Drama Group on winning the All-Ireland Confined Drama Final. Cllr. Keaveney asked that the Glenamaddy Drama Group be awarded a Civic Reception by the Ballinasloe Municipal District.

Congratulations to the Women's Irish Rugby team on their achievements in the Six Nations.

Congratulations to Roscommon on winning the 2026 Connacht Senior Football Championship final.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MD8

Cllrs. Parsons, D. Connolly and M. Connolly sought clarification regarding the usage of Hayden's Hotel following recent reports that An Coimisúin Pleanála had ruled that a change of use for the hotel would not require planning permission. Cllr. Harney asked that the Council challenge the decision of An Coimisúin Pleanála. Mr. Mitchell said that he will refer this matter to the Planning Department.

Cllr. Keaveney requested an update regarding traffic calming measures at Kilcroan National School. Mr. Batty advised that he met with the Principal of Kilcroan National School and that repairs will be carried out on the periodic speed signs. He also noted that a speed counter is on site and will see if road signage can be improved.

It was agreed that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Ballinasloe Municipal District would take place on 10th June at 2pm.

CHRIOCHNAIGH AN CRUINNIU ANSIN

Cathaoirleach:



Date:

10-06-26