**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council**

**Held on Monday 21st November, 2016,**

**at 4.00 p.m., in City Hall, College Road, Galway.**

****

**Presiding: Cllr. P. Flannery, Deputy Mayor of the City of Galway**

**Present: Councillors: B. Cameron, C. Ó Conchúir, P. Conneely, C. Connolly, M.J. Crowe, O. Crowe, M. Cubbard, F. Fahy, M. Farrell, P. Keane, M. Lohan,**

**D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, T. O'Flaherty and J. Walsh.**

**In Attendance: Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive**

**Mr. T. Connell, Director of Services**

**Mr. J. O’Neill, Director of Services**

**Ms. E. McCormack, Head of Finance / Director of Services**

**Ms. E. Ruane, A/Director of Services**

**Mr. D. Mahon, Meetings Administrator**

**Ms. C. Phelan, Senior Planner**

**Mr. J. Tansey, Senior Engineer**

**Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer**

**Ms. H. Coleman, Senior Executive Planner,**

**Ms. L. Mitchell, Senior Executive Officer**

**Ms. K. Lohan, Clerical Officer.**

**Apologies:**  **Cllr. N. Larkin, Mayor of the City of Galway, Cllrs, M. Farrell, N. McNelis and T. O’Flaherty**

1. Deputy Mayor Flannery noted apologies from Cllrs. Farrell, McNelis and O’Flaherty and advised Councillors that Mayor Larkin was in Brussels in relation to the European Capital of Culture designation.
2. Condolences were offered to the families of Mr. P.J Kennedy and Mr. Michael Walsh RIP and a minutes silence was held in memory of Mr. Peter Keavney Executive Engineer Galway City Council, RIP.
3. **1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

**(a) Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Monday 27th June 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. B. Cameron **Seconded:** Cllr. D. Lyons

**Matters of Accuracy:** Mr. J. O’Neill Director of Service referred Councillors to the list of proposed draft adjustments issued to the various sets of the Draft City Development Plan Minutes, in advance of the November Meeting and drew the members’ attention to those proposed alterations. A number of Councillors expressed dissatisfaction that adjustments had been proposed to the Minutes. Mr. O’Neill referred to the overall number and type of amendments and noted that the full set of revised Minutes had been issued to members well in advance of the November Meeting for their consideration.

**Matters Arising:** None.

The Minutes were adopted.

1. **Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Wednesday 29th June 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. B. Cameron **Seconded:** Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir

**Matters of Accuracy:** None  **Matters Arising:** None

The Minutes were adopted.

1. **Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Friday 1st July 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. B. Cameron **Seconded:** Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir

**Matters of Accuracy:** None  **Matters Arising:** None

The Minutes were adopted.

1. **Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Tuesday 5th July 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir **Seconded:** Cllr. B. Cameron

**Matters of Accuracy:** None  **Matters Arising:** None

The Minutes were adopted.

1. **Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Thursday 7th July 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. B. Cameron **Seconded:** Cllr. D. Lyons

**Matters of Accuracy:**

Cllr. P. Conneely referred to Submission F as noted in the Minutes and queried the interpretation of the motion adopted and then reflected in the document issued for public consultation. He expressed his dissatisfaction to a different interpretation being published by way of proposed material change. Cllr. Conneely stated that the wording of the Motion to adopt the submission referred to the entirety of the site at Presentation Road of 770 square metres and as per the map submitted. He noted that the alteration issued for public consultation was different to what he understood was agreed by Council and noted in the Minutes.

Mr. O’Neill and Ms. C. Phelan Senior Planner provided clarifications and advise on the interpretation taken and noted that the strip of land (of approximately 7 metres) was by the water’s edge and zoned RA. The submission referred to sought the rezoning of CF lands to R but did not specifically refer to the RA lands. A number of Councillors agreed with the interpretation as noted by Cllr. Conneely. Mr. O’Neill advised Councillors that it was not explicitly clear what was being proposed in the submission and the interpretation was taken to exclude the RA element of the site.

Mr. O’Neill advised that the zoning could not now be amended at this stage of the process but outlined the process which could be followed after adoption of the City Development Plan to address the concerns of Councillors.

A number of Councillors expressed some concern that information was published at variance to what the members had understood they had approved and sought assurances that no other issues of a similar nature were present. Chief Executive Mr. McGrath advised Councillors that there were no other issues of this nature and advised members that adjustments, noted in the sets of Minutes issued were regrettable, but had been corrected, and that the number of corrections was minimal in the context of the overall process. Councillors sought advice on how the matter could be rectified and Mr. O’Neill outlined the various the processes that could be followed.

Cllr. P. Flannery referred to the White Oaks and right of way issue and sought clarifications on the consequences of any successful legal challenge.

Cllr. M. Cubbard queried the absence of a Chief Executive’s Recommendation in the Minutes in relation to Submission K.

Cllr. O. Crowe stated his dissatisfaction the Minutes had not come before the Council at an earlier date but Cllr. D. Lyons noted that the Minutes were listed on the agenda of September Ordinary Meeting but deferred by agreement of the Councillors.

Chief Executive Mr. McGrath referred to the overall process undertaken over 5 Meetings and the challenges in recording accurately the detail of every consideration. He noted that the Minutes were in draft format until adopted and that minor amendments had been made to the set of Minutes now adopted. He noted that variations to the Plan will be considered post adoption of the Plan and advised Councillors that a variation would come before them in any case in Q1 2017 to deal with the proposed Galway City Ring Road project. Cllr. P. Conneely noted the position as outlined but stated his annoyance that the submission agreed was not appropriately interpreted as intended. He again repeated that the submission and wording was to be based on the map outlined which in his view, and those of other Councillors, was to include the full site in question.

The Minutes were adopted.

**(f) Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on Monday 12th September 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. B. Cameron **Seconded:** Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir

**Matters of Accuracy:** None

**Matters Arising:** A synopsis of matters arising is outlined below:

Cllr. P. Conneely: Social media tweet relating to the General Election, update on Tourist Office on Forster Street, LE Aisling Twinning Motion, Motion calling on Cllr. C. Connolly to withdraw alleged comments, Solas governance issues as reported in the media.

Cllr. O. Crowe: Ballinfoile Community Centre update, social media tweet.

Cllr. D. Lyons: Tourist Office update, Solas Cinema and timelines, Knocknacarra community centre update.

Cllr. C. Connolly: Ballinfoile Community Centre and requirement for pedestrian crossing, Traveller Accommodation Programme, tree cutting in Salthill.

Cllr. MJ Crowe: Solas Cinema progress and update, traveller encampment at Doughiska.

Cllr. B. Cameron: CCTV Westside and Bowling Green.

Cllr. M. Cubbard: Ballinfoile Community Centre and pedestrian crossing requirement.

Cllr. F. Fahy: Ballinfoile Community Centre and pedestrian crossing requirement, health and safety concerns.

Cllr. D. McDonnell: Travellers illegal encampment at Doughiska and measures to address ongoing issues and concerns.

Cllr. P. Flannery: Traveller encampment and requirement for recoupment of legal costs through attachment order.

Cllr. J. Walsh: Traveller encampment and measures required to address.

Detailed replies on questions, queries and clarifications were provided by Ms. E. Ruane A/ Director of Services, Mr. T. Connell Director of Services, Mr. J. O’Neill Director of Services and Chief Executive Mr. McGrath. Mr. Connell outlined in detail the issues relating to the illegal encampment at Doughiska and measures to be taken to address the issue through the courts if necessary. Mr. McGrath stated the requirement to address the implementation of the adopted Traveller Accommodation Programme and noted the urgency of same. Mr. McGrath referred to social media tweet and provided replies to the satisfaction of the members. Commitments were given to progress the installation of the pedestrian crossing at Ballinfoile and members were assured that the opening of the Centre would not be held up pending same.

On the proposal of Cllr. D. McDonnell and seconded by Cllr. P. Conneely it was agreed to defer Item 4 (e) Quarterly Reports until the December Meeting and to take the item first under Agenda Item 4. This was agreed.

Cllr. P. Conneely sought clarification on the Motion referring to Cllr. C. Connolly and requested to be advised whether a reply had issued. Mr. D. Mahon, Meetings Administrator read the reply received from Cllr. Connolly. Deputy Mayor Flannery requested Cllr. Connolly to withdraw the remarks. Cllr. Connolly stated that no remarks were made by her as alleged and the Minutes of the relevant Meeting did not record any such remarks. Deputy Mayor Flannery advised Cllr. Connolly that withdrawal of the remarks would enable the Council proceed with its business. Cllr. Connolly again advised that no remarks were made by her as alleged.

Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir advised that he did not recall any remark attributed to Cllr. Connolly being made in the Chamber. He noted concern that the issue was now becoming one of personal bullying by one member against another and that it was grossly unfair to pursue the matter in this format as it amounted to personal intimidation, was unfair and wrong. Cllr. P. Conneely stated his objection to the term misogynistic and could not accept the term being attributed to him or other members of Galway City Council. Cllr. D. McDonnell noted that a number of members heard the comment being used by Cllr. Connolly and requested she withdraw it, even if on the basis that she does not recall using it. Cllr. Connolly again noted that no comments of this nature were attributed to her in the adopted Minutes of the meeting, at which she was alleged to have made the remark.

Cllr. P. Conneely referred the Deputy Mayor to Standing Order 41 and formally proposed he proceed to remove Cllr. Connolly from the Chamber under the provisions of S.O 41. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Walsh.

Comments on the proposal were made by Cllrs. M. Lohan, M. Cubbard, D. Lyons and F. Fahy. Chief Executive Mr. McGrath stated that the provisions of Standing Order 41 could not be viewed in isolation from S.O’s 38, 39 and 40. Cllr. P. Keane stated his agreement with this interpretation and noted that S.O 41 was not a standalone provision and was therefore not appropriate in this instance and out of context.

Deputy Mayor Flannery proposed an adjournment of the Meeting to enable further consideration of the Motion put forward by Cllr. Conneely.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6.20 pm and was reconvened at 6.40 pm.

Deputy Mayor Flannery advised Councillors that Cllr. Connolly wished to issue statement to the Meeting. Cllr. Connolly stated that no remark was made at any stage at any Meeting and that the Minutes reflected that. She stated she welcomed the views of Councillors that they are not misogynistic and the declaration of members in this regard. Cllr. Connolly advised that no further comment on the matter would be made.

**(g) Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Tuesday 4th October 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. D. Lyons **Seconded:** Cllr. B. Cameron

**Matters of Accuracy:** None **Matters Arising:** None

**(h) Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on Monday 10th October 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. D. McDonnell **Seconded:** Cllr. B. Cameron

**Matters of Accuracy:**

Cllr. B. Cameron: Noted that the Minute should record that it was on his proposal (and seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons) that the additional funding of €15,000 to Macnas was approved at the Meeting.

**Matters Arising:** A synopsis of matters arising is outlined below:

Cllr. O. Crowe: Housing staff vacancies update, staffing at City Museum and use of third level students in partnership with local third level institutions. Noted success of recent Macnas parade and proposed letter of congratulations to issue to Macnas.

Cllr. C. Connolly: Parking issues at City Museum and requirement to resolve, Macnas parade and success

Cllr. M. Cubbard: Housing staff vacancies and use / cost of contractors in the West Side of the city.

Cllr. P. Conneely: Application to Tourism Ireland for City Museum update, Motion on Local Government Boundary Review report and update, Macnas parade and success and consideration of formal acknowledgement by City Council and Mayor.

Cllr. M. Lohan: Local Government Boundary Report and update, next steps.

Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir: Tourism Strategy update and requirement to engage on a regional level with all relevant stakeholders

Cllr. D. McDonnell: Local Government Boundary Report Motion and reply.

Cllr. D. Lyons: Macnas funding and his agreement to second the Motion from Cllr. Cameron.

Replies on the questions, queries and clarifications sought from the members were provided by relevant Directors of Service and Chief Executive.

**(i) Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on Friday 21st October 2016**

**Proposed:** Cllr. D. Lyons **Seconded:** Cllr. F. Fahy

**Matters of Accuracy:** None **Matters Arising:** None

2. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE

**(a) Local Government Auditors Report 2015 and Audit Committee Report**

Ms. E. McCormack Head of Finance referred Councillors to the report issued and noted that the Audit Committee received the Local Government Statutory Audit Report for year ended 2015 on the 4th October 2016. The Audit Committee considered this Statutory Audit Report at its meeting on the 17th October 2016 and the Local Government Auditor attended this meeting to present and advise on her Audit Report and recommendations.

Ms. McCormack noted that the Audit Committee welcomed the unqualified “Clean” Audit Report presented for the year 2015, including effective budgetary controls; reduction in long-term loans; increased collection levels for Rates; prudent bad debt provisions; on-going progress on the verification and registration of Title of Council assets, including those assets to be transferred to Irish Water; decreases in the number of old housing capital accounts balances, along with acknowledgement of the courtesy and the cooperation received during the audit process from the Council and its staff.

Ms. McCormack noted that the Auditor raised some areas of concern, including collection levels in housing rents and loans; the time frame since a rent review was preformed; the land loans to be funded for City Council resources; unfunded capital accounts balances; Shared Services apportioned costs; Insurance issues at Leisureland; procurement issues of compliance and enforcement; resourcing of the Internal Audit function; and shortcomings in the maintenances of policy and procedure manuals.

Councillors welcomed the positive achievements noted in the report but raised queries in relation to a number of issues. Contributions were received from Cllrs. C. Connolly, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, P. Keane, B. Cameron, O. Crowe, F. Fahy, C. Ó Conchúir, P. Conneely and M. Lohan.

Matters raised for discussion and clarification included: housing rent and loan arrears, LAGS loans, procurement compliance and requirement for value for money in roads projects, collection levels for commercial rates, bad debts provision for housing rents, extent of reporting to Senior Management Team from the Procurement Officer and concerns in relation to tendering and procurement processes and procedures, fixed assets register and registration of title to Council land assets, shared services costs and arrears; extended opening hours for libraries without a staff presence; consultation with rate payers in Eyre Square on the Christmas market; collection of arrears relating to water provision; potential adverse possession issues relating to lands acquired by the Council for road widening; requirement to engage legal services to ensure lands are appropriately registered; returns under ethics legislation required from elected members and staff; insurance cover for Leisureland; service level agreement with Irish Water; potential for investment in pension schemes; the potential to examine a transient occupancy tax in the city and establishment of a team to consider; unfunded capital balances, particularly for works completed in Eyre Square; funding for ECOC 2020 and contributions from each local authority; contracts tendered noted as not correctly advertised and overall procurement compliance.

At 7.30p.m. an extension of time was proposed by Cllr. D. McDonnell and seconded by Cllr. P. Keane to be reviewed at 8.00 pm and to complete Item 2 (a) and (b), 4 (a) and 4 (b). This was agreed.

Replies and clarifications on the issues raised were provided by Ms. McCormack who also referenced the Office for Government Procurement framework for legal services being introduced and procedures being developed to ensure compliance. Ms. McCormack noted that a report on Shared Services costs will be presented at the December Meeting. Mr. D. Mahon SEO Corporate Services replied to queries raised in relation to the Ethics declarations while Ms. E. Ruane provided clarification on the registration of title process underway under the PIR Project within the Corporate Services section. Mr. J. O’Neill referred to queries in relation to works undertaken at the Western Distributor road in reply to concerns raised by a number of Councillors. A Motion was proposed in relation to road works at various locations. (noted under Item 5 below). Mr. U. Finn Senior Engineer provided clarification on issues raised in relation to road surfacing and costs, noting that the procurement process for same was not referenced in the Audit report. Mr. Finn committed to examining the concerns raised in the context of the 2017 roads programme.

Following further clarifications from the Head of Finance and Chief Executive, a Motion was considered calling for a presentation from the Procurement Officer on overall procurement compliance and to further address issues raised in the Audit report. Ms. McCormack outlined the role of the procurement office in an advisory capacity and noted that policies and procedures were being continually reviewed in line with national requirements. Mr. McGrath noted that robust procurement process was in place and value for money in public procurement was a priority. He advised that the Procurement Officer had reported to Senior Management Team as recently as the previous week and revised processes to ensure further compliance were agreed and would be implemented. He advised that there were very good reasons in each instance why contracts may have been extended beyond initial tender price, and within tender guidelines, and provided examples of same.

It was agreed that a report on procurement would be included on the December Agenda to include input from the Procurement Officer and relevant Directors of Services.

At 8.00 pm a further extension of time was proposed by Cllr. B. Cameron and seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons to complete consideration of Motions submitted and Item 4 (a) and (b). Councillors also agreed to take all items under Item 3 (Reports of Committee Meetings) as noted.

**(b) Section 183 Local Government Act 2001 – Transfer of Lands to Kerril & Louise Burke at rear of 129 Villa Nova Mews, Salthill.**

Councillors were advised that the initial notice issued to members contained a zoning reference which has now been amended. Councillors discussed the implications of the proposal to dispose of the site and raised a number of planning related queries.

Cllr. B. Cameron referred to draft policy on the disposal of lands and proposed a deferral of Item 2(b) and all future Section 183 Notices pending Council consideration and agreement of the policy being examined by the Planning SPC. Councillors sought clarification on the proposal and the extent that it might refer to this Notice only or all Notices under Section 183 that might come before Council. Mr. J. O’Neill advised that the Planning SPC would consider the draft policy at its next meeting and revert to Council thereafter.

On the proposal of Cllr. B. Cameron and seconded by Cllr. C. Connolly the following Motion was agreed.

**That consideration all S.183’s under the Local Government Act 2001 be deferred pending adoption of the disposal of land policy.**

In Favour: 9 Against: 4 Abstain: 0 Present: 13

The Motion was carried.

Consideration of Item 2(b) was therefore deferred.

**3. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

1. **Corporate Policy Group Meeting of the 12th October 2016**

Noted.

1. **Corporate Policy Group Meeting of the 1st November 2016**

Noted.

1. **Corporate Policy Group Meeting of the 3rd November 2016**

Noted.

1. **Corporate Policy Group Meeting of the 11th November 2016**

Noted.

1. **Procedures Committee Meeting of the 11th November 2016**

Noted.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICIALS**

**(a) Traveller Accommodation Programme**

Councillors discussed the illegal encampment at Doughiska and a Motion was considered and adopted (listed under Item 5 Notices of Motion). Cllr. D. McDonnell referred to the report issued and noted concern in relation to the consultation undertaken and requested a more extensive report on the matter.

Following brief discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. MJ Crowe and seconded by Cllr. C. Connolly to defer consideration of the item and address it first on the agenda for the December Ordinary Meeting.

**(b) CFRAM Report - Submission on OPW Proposals**

Mr. J. O’Neill Director of Services, referred Councillors to the report issued. He referenced that members would recall that in the course of the presentation on the Draft Flood Risk Management Plan for the Corrib Catchment by Mr. M. Adamson of the OPW at the October 2016 Council meeting, it was advised that each local authority could make a submission on the Draft Plan by 13th December 2016. Mr. O’Neill referred to a summary of the Draft Plan, and the measures it recommends for Galway City, and a document outlining the Planning context in which any flood prevention or flood protection works proposed for the city should be designed and implemented.

Mr. J. O’ Neill referred to the Draft Flood Risk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment including Areas for Further Assessment (AFA). The Galway City Council Submission was then outlined and Mr. O’Neill summarised the contents that include: Introduction, Galway City Flood History & Future Changes, Flood Risk Assessment & Flood Maps, Flood Defence Systems, Maintenance of Drainage Systems and Assets, Emergency Response Management and Conclusions and City Council Submission.

Contributions were received on the report from Cllr. B. Cameron who proposed the submission of the report to the OPW as outlined and encouraged the progression of minor flood relief mitigation works in the city, in particular locations including at Distillery Road as a priority. Cllr. D. Lyons seconded the Motion to submit the report and noted requirements for works at South Park and rock armour requirements at Salthill. Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir noted the requirement to be prepared for rising sea levels and coastal erosion consequences. Cllr. C. Connolly also welcomed the report and outlined requirements at South Park and Salthill Prom. Cllr. F. Fahy referred to a priority requirement to address silting in the city’s canals and waterways.

Replies on the issues raised were provided by Mr. O’Neill who noted the importance of making a submission to ensure Galway City’s case for adequate funding to be allocated for required projects. He referred in particular to Part 7 of the submission detailing the specific issues contained in the report as a priority for the city. Chief Executive Mr. McGrath referred to the importance of the submission and outlined its priorities and objectives. He noted that the city would compete with other areas for resources to implement the works required and recommended adoption of the report to the members.

**On the proposal of Cllr. B. Cameron and seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons it was agreed to endorse and submit the port as outlined to the Office of Public Works**.

In Favour: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 12

The Motion was carried.

**(c) Chief Executive’s Report for October 2016**

Deferred

**(d) Chief Executive’s Report for November 2016**

Deferred

**(e) Quarterly Reports for Quarter Ending 30th September**

**(i) Transportation**

**(ii) Housing**

**(iii) Community, Culture & Economic Development**

**(iv) Environment**

**(v) Recreation & Amenity**

Deferred to Council meeting – 12th December, 2016.

**(f) L.E Aishling Report**

Deferred

**5. NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following Notices of Motion were considered at the Meeting.

**Proposed: Cllr. P. Keane Seconded: Cllr. M J. Crowe**

“That the Procurement Officer would come before Council and report on the breaches established in procurement and outline what steps Galway City Council has taken to ensure that no such breaches occur in the future”

**In Favour: 13 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 13**

**The Motion was approved**

Members agreed that the Procurement Officer would be in attendance and present a report alongside reports from relevant Directors of Service.

**Proposed: Cllr. M J. Crowe Seconded: Cllr. P. Flannery**

“The elected Members of Galway City Council being the representatives of the people of Galway City condemn the ongoing behaviour and actions of those members of the travelling community who once again have set-up an illegal encampment in Doughiska Park. Their actions continue to cause enormous upset to the residents in Doughiska and Galway in general. They have also ignored previous court orders. We ask the executive to take all necessary legal action to remove these occupants once and for all. Furthermore should the matter once again end up in court – that this Motion is brought to the attention of the presiding judge.”

**In Favour: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 1 Present: 13**

**The Motion was approved**

**Proposed: Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir Seconded: Cllr. P. Keane**

“That this Council would bring in a Transient Occupancy Tax of €2.00 per room, per night, for hotels with over 20 rooms, and that the monies collected be ring fenced for infrastructure and housing maintenance”.

**The Motion was ruled out of order.**

Cllr. D. McDonnell stated that this Motion had been considered and rejected at the Statutory Budget Meeting of the 14th November and as such should be considered out of order under Standing Orders. Following discussion it was agreed on the suggestion of the Chief Executive that the Council would consider the merits of the proposal in the first instance and will report back to Council at a later date on the merits and operation of such a proposal. This was agreed.

**Proposed: Cllr. P. Keane Seconded: Cllr. MJ. Crowe**

“In the interest of maintaining a manageable Property Register of Assets, that Galway City Council take immediate steps to complete First Registration applications to the Property Registration Authority in respect of all Registry of Deeds properties currently in the ownership of this Council so that all properties are reflected on Folios and file plans into the future”

**In Favour: 13 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 13**

**The Motion was approved**

**Proposed: Cllr. P. Flannery Seconded: Cllr. D. Lyons**

“That Galway City Council explore the road surface on the Western Distributor Road and Menlo Road be addressed and remedial action be taken to rectify deficiencies in the quality of the surface. This also includes the road surfaces in Windfield Gardens, Knocknacarra Park/The Rise/Seacrest and Hawthorn Place estates and the roundabout on the Western Distributor Road”.

**In Favour: 13 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 13**

**The Motion was approved**

**Proposed: Cllr. C. Connolly Seconded: Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir**

“Congratulation to be sent out on behalf of elected Members for the fantastic parade that took place on the 30th October by Macnas on their 30th Anniversary parade which was attended by in excess of fifty thousand people”

**In Favour: 13 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 13**

**The Motion was approved**

NOM 22/16 Notice given by: Cllr. T. O’Flaherty

Date Received: 2nd October, 2016

“I am calling on this Council to create an exit lane for right turning traffic exiting from the Martin Roundabout on the Dublin Road (R446) heading outbound to the Coolagh Roundabout to facilitate easy access to the Motorway. The grass margin along this stretch has ample room to facilitate a third exit”.

Reply issued dated 18th November 2016.

The following Notices of Motion on the Agenda were not considered at the Meeting.

**Motion Submitted at Special Meeting 16th May 2016 and deferred to June Ordinary Meeting**

Proposed: Cllr. P. Conneely

Seconded: Cllr. P. Flannery

“Propose that legal costs in relation to consequential filling of vacancies on committees and other bodies airing from the co-option of a Councillor be paid by Cllr. Colette Connolly”.

NOM 03/16 Notice given by: Cllr. N. McNelis

Date Received: 30th March, 2016

“For the benefit of retailers in the city centre and for shoppers and visitors all pedestrian areas of the city centre are vehicle free from an earlier start of 9.00 am during the months of June, July and August”.

NOM 09/16 Notice given by: Cllr. C. Connolly

Date Received: 11th April, 2016

“That GCC requests that the Government provide adequate funding to provide special housing units for victims of domestic violence”.

NOM 12/16 Notice given by: Cllr. C. Connolly

Date Received: 3rd May, 2016.

“That Galway City Council Transportation SPC calls on the Government to introduce a free school transport service for all children attending city schools.

NOM 16/16 Notice given by: Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir

Date Received: 24th August, 2016.

“That this Council ask Sean Kyne T.D. and the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to intervene in the ongoing dispute at Ros a Mhil Harbour between local fisherman and the harbour authorities”.

NOM 17/16 Notice given by: Cllr. D. Lyons

Date Received: 5th September 2016.

“Galway City Council calls on the Minister of Health to amend the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2002 and introduce additional legislation/regulations which would regulate the use of e-cigarettes similar to those which already apply to tobacco related activity”

NOM 18/16 Notice given by: Cllr. D. Lyons

Date Received: 5th September 2016.

“Galway City Council calls on the Industrial Development Authority and other state agencies to bring forward plans for the development of the industrial zoned lands on the west of Galway City.”

NOM 23/16 Notice given by: Cllr. B. Cameron

Date Received: 3rd October, 2016

“I call on the Chief Executive to earmark and designate the 1.4 acre site in the Westside as a Cultural and Artistic hub to cater for a mix of organisations specialising with Children and youth”.

NOM 24/16 Notice given by: Cllr. P. Flannery

Date Received: 2nd November, 2016

“That the Galway City Council executive write to Dr Eamon Martin, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland and request the he formally invite His Holiness Pope Francis to visit Galway during his proposed visit to Ireland in 2018 and celebrate mass in a similar fashion to his predecessor John Paul 2nd in 1979”.

NOM 25/16 Notice given by: Cllr. O. Crowe

Date Received: 8th November, 2016

“That Galway city council calls on the current government to reverse their decision for staffless libraries with immediate effect”

**6. QUESTIONS**

Q 10/16 Notice given by: Cllr. B. Cameron

Date Received: 3rd October, 2016

Representations were made recently regarding the surface of the children’s play area of the Millenium Park. Are works to ensue in order to upgrade the surface and when?

Reply circulated 16th November, 2016.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Noted.

**8. ITEMS FOR COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION**

None.

**9. CONFERENCES**

Conferences and seminars were agreed on the proposal of Cllr. P. Conneely and seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell and agreed.

Title: Rebuilding Ireland. Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness

Date: 9th and 10th December, 2016

Venue: Bunclody, Co. Wexford

The following Councillor was approved to attend: Cllr. F. Fahy

Title: AILG Training Seminar

Date: 19th November, 2016

Venue: Red Cow Moran Hotel, Dublin

The following Councillors were approved to attend: Cllr. O. Crowe and Cllr. P. Conneely.

Title: The Future of Planning and Architectural Heritage

Date: 2nd November, 2016

Venue: Alexander Hotel, Dublin

The following Councillors were approved to attend: Cllr. P. Conneely.

Title: Environmental Considerations for Renewable Energy Development

Date: 23rd November, 2016

Venue: Cavan County Council Offices, Cavan

The following Councillors were approved to attend: Cllr. P. Conneely and Cllr. O. Crowe

**10. VOTES OF SYMPATHY/CONGRATULATIONS**

Mr. Michael “Tiny” Walsh (R.I.P.)

Mr. Mark P.J. Kennedy (R.I.P.)

**11. OTHER BUSINESS SET FORTH IN THE NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING**

None.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

The Meeting ended at 8.50 pm