

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held virtually on zoom platform on Monday 11th of April 2022 at 3.00 pm.	
Presiding	Cllr. C. Connolly, Mayor of the City of Galway
Present	Councillors A. Cheevers; J. Connolly; M.J. Crowe, O. Hanley & E. Hoare
Present (virtually)	Councillors: F. Fahy, C. Higgins, M. O'Connor, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, N. Murphy, T. O'Flaherty, P. Keane & M. Cubbard
Apologies	Councillors I. Byrne, N. Larkin
Present	Mr. P. Foley, Meetings Administrator Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive
Present (virtually)	Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer Mr. C. Shaughnessy, Asst. Engineer Mr. M. McDonagh, Staff Officer Mr. B. Barrett, Senior Executive Officer Mr. D. Mahon, Senior Executive Officer Ms. L. Fanning, Senior Engineer Ms. C. Morgan, Administrative Officer Mr. G. McMahon, Arts Officer Mr. R. Lehmann, Tourism Officer Ms. S. King, Clerical Officer Ms. A. Ní Chúláin, Clerical Officer

Note: The Minutes of the Meeting and Agenda Items are recorded in the order of their consideration.

Mr. P. Foley, Meetings Administrator commenced the meeting with a statement of intention to conduct the business of the Meeting in line with Standing Orders followed by a moment of silent reflection.

Mayor C. Connolly welcomed all to the meeting and suggested that the agenda be considered as set out. This was agreed.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1(a) Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on 21st March 2022

On matters of accuracy Mr. P. Foley informed the meeting that the Minutes of the 21st March 2022 needed to be amended to reflect Cllr. D. Lyons' recommendation regarding the cycle lane from Blackrock to Kingston Junction. Cllr. D. Lyons referred to his proposal that legal advice be sought on Mayor C. Connolly's recommendation 'That Galway City Council proceed with the two-way segregated cycle lane from Grattan Rd to Blackrock and to not proceed with the one-way cycle lane from



 Minutes, Confirmed & Signed
Mayor C. Connolly
 Mayor of Galway

Blackrock to Barna/Kingston junction. He proposed again that legal advice should be sought. He advised that this was seconded by Cllr. F. Fahy initially at the meeting and supported by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty.

Mayor C. Connolly invited matters of accuracy and matters arising. Under matters arising the following was raised:

Cllr. D. Lyons queried the difference between the Meeting Agenda and the Supplementary Agenda. Mayor C. Connolly responded to this query.

Cllr. O. Hanley requested an update on his request for a review of the differential rent scheme.

Cllr. A. Cheevers asked what date would he receive the full report on Galway2020 and when would the report be brought before the City Council.

The Chief Executive and Mr. D. Mahon, Senior Executive Officer responded to queries.

Mayor C. Connolly requested that the current differential rent scheme be circulated to all Councillors. The Chief Executive agreed to this request.

Proposed By: Cllr. E. Hoare Seconded By: Cllr. N. Murphy

1(a) Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on 21st March, 2022

The minutes were agreed and adopted.

2. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE

2(a) Galway City Joint Policing Committee (JPC) Annual Report 2021

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to Item 2(a). Councillors discussed the Report.

Proposed By: Cllr. C. Connolly Seconded By: : Cllr. N. McNelis

That a summary of all concerns raised be brought forward to the Gardaí

This was agreed and approved unanimously.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: E. Hoare

Galway City Joint Policing Committee (JPC) Annual Report 2021 be noted.

This was agreed and approved unanimously.



3. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3(a) Note of Housing Strategic Planning Policy Committee of 25th February 2022

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons

Seconded By: Cllr. M. O'Connor

Note of Housing Strategic Planning Policy Committee of 25th February 2022

This was noted.

4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

4(a) Outdoor Living Update

Mr. B. Barrett gave Councillors an update on the Outdoor Living Plan 2022 in Galway City (May-September).

A short break commenced at 4.40pm. The meeting resumed at 5.00pm.

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to Items 1 and 2 on the Supplementary Agenda.

1. Appointment of Representative on Other Bodies

1(a) Galway Sports Partnership / Comhpháirtíocht Spóirt na Gaillimhe

Appointment of One (1) Member (for the remaining term of current Council).

Previous Member: Cllr. Declan McDonnell

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis

Seconded By: Cllr. M. O'Connor

That Cllr. M. Cubbard replace Cllr. D. McDonnell as the elected member to the Galway Sports Partnership.

This was agreed and approved unanimously.

2. Consideration of Reports of Officials

Water Services Quarterly Report, January - March 2022

It was recommended by the Chief Executive that this report be referred to the SPC. This was proposed by Mayor C. Connolly and seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons.

4(b) Office of the Planning Regulator Review Update

Mayor C. Connolly proposed that each Councillor be given 5 minutes to speak instead of 3 minutes as per Standing Orders, given the importance of this item. This was seconded by Cllr. M. Crowe and agreed by all.

A number of questions and concerns were raised by Councillors including staffing issues. P. Philbin, Director of Services & the Chief Executive responded to questions and concerns raised.

Mayor C. Connolly adjourned the meeting at 6.27pm. The meeting resumed at 6.40pm.

Mayor C. Connolly proposed to extend the meeting until Item 4(c) was discussed but no later than 7.30pm. This was seconded by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty and agreed.

Proposed By: Cllr. C. Connolly Seconded By: Cllr. D. Lyons

That GCC calls on the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to carry out of a review of the current categorisation of Galway City, reflective of Galway's designation as Regional City in the National Planning Framework 2040.

This was agreed and approved un unanimously.

4(c) Ukrainian Update

P. Philbin, Director of Services gave a verbal update to Councillors on this matter. Following discussions by Councillors, the Mayor proposed the following motion.

Proposed By: Cllr. C. Connolly Seconded By: Cllr. E. Hoare

That this Council convey in writing to the Russian Ambassador our utter condemnation of the Russian invasion of the democratic state of the Ukraine

This was agreed and approved unanimously.

Correspondence

P. Greene, Director of Services stated that he would come revert to the Councillors with an update Correspondence items (a) and (b).

(a) Global Mayors Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy.

(b) Correspondence dated 11th January 2022 received from Technological University of the Shannon regarding Clean Energy Transition

4(d) Galway City Council's Public Lighting LED Upgrade Programme - Update report on completion of project

Not Considered

4(e) Chief Executive's Report - Not Considered.

- i. **March 2022**
- ii. **April 2022**

4(f) Quarterly Report, January - March 2022 - Not Considered.

- i. **Economic, Community & Cultural Development**
- ii. **Environment & Climate Change**
- iii. **Housing**
- iv. **Recreation & Amenity**
- v. **Transport & Infrastructure**

5. NOTICES OF MOTION - Not Considered.

NOM 7/2021

Notice given by: Cllr. M.J. Crowe

Date Received: 11th February 2021

That Galway City Council calls on the Office of Public Works to carry out the necessary excavation works to recover the remains of Joe Brady, Daniel Curley, Michael Fagan, Thomas Caffrey and Tim Kelly, in what is commonly known as the Invincibles Yard at Kilmainham Gaol. The bodies of these five members of the Irish National Invincibles lie beneath the paving slabs of the yard where they were executed in 1883 for their part in the Phoenix Park assassinations. The families of the five men are represented by the National Graves Association and the wish of the families is for their relatives to be exhumed from Kilmainham Gaol and reinterred in consecrated ground at Glasnevin Cemetery.'

NOM 13/2021

Notice given by: Cllr. M.J. Crowe

Date Received: 3rd March 2021

On foot of recent events, this Council calls on the NTMA to cease all and any dealings with 'Davy' forthwith

NOM 18/2021 also submitted under SO 34 at Council meeting held on 12th April 2021

Notice given by: Cllr. A. Cheevers

Date Received: 7th April 2021

I am calling on Galway City Council to make Cross street a permanent pedestrian street to accommodate outdoor dining and to accommodate businesses in the area.

I also would like Galway City Council to look at other areas of the City that this could be also made possible.

Reply issued on 16th April 2021. Request to leave on the Agenda.

NOM 28/2021**Notice given by: Cllr. M. O'Connor****Date Received: 10th May 2021 - Wording amended on 24th May 2021**

That Galway City Council call for:

- Free Travel pass to be extended to people with epilepsy who may be temporarily off the road due to their condition and/or who may be unable to drive because of their condition.
- Students who may experience a seizure during state examinations are afforded the opportunity to resit their exam within the same exam cycle

NOM 33/2021**Notice given by: Cllr. C. Connolly****Date Received: 22nd June 2021**

Galway City Council acknowledges the need for a new national maternity hospital (NMH) to provide the highest quality healthcare in Dublin, and across Ireland. Galway City Council notes the lack of legal clarity regarding the ownership and management of the hospital, and also acknowledges the concerns regarding the employment rights of those who will work in the hospital.

Galway City Council agrees to write to the Minister for Health to call for the proposed new publicly-funded NMH to be constructed on land owned by the State; and that, to guarantee its secular ethos, the new facility be fully owned and governed by the State. If this motion is passed it is agreed that this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities.

NOM 40/2021**Notice given by: Cllr. C. Connolly****Date Received: 4th October 2021 (Amended wording 17th January 2022)**

GCC calls on the Government to support a New Deal for Early Childhood Years, increasing investment and implementing a new funding model so educators are paid a decent wage, childcare is affordable for parents and these essential services are sustainable into the future.

In doing so I propose that a letter is sent on behalf of GCC to both Minister O'Gorman and Minister McGrath asking them both to support a new deal for Early Childhood Years, in order to deliver quality care and education for our children, our workers, parents and providers

NOM 41/2021**Notice given by: Cllr. N. McNelis****Date Received: 2nd October 2021**

The Irish Society for Colitis & Crohn's Disease is a patient-to-patient support group for over 40,000 people who are living with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) in Ireland. Inflammatory Bowel Disease describes a group of conditions in which the intestines become inflamed. The two most common inflammatory bowel diseases are Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Living with IBD can be a daily struggle, traveling outside the home has always been a challenge for many people living with IBD.

The Irish Society for Colitis and Crohn's Disease is calling on all County Councils and the Department of Health to recognise our "No Waiting" card, to support people in the community with IBD gaining urgent access to a nearby toilet.

NOM 03/2022**Notice given by: Cllr. T. O'Flaherty****Date Received: 01st February 2022**

That this council calls on the Government to include, in the wording of the proposed Road Traffic and Roads Bill 2021 currently going through the Oireachtas, a requirement that all users of e-scooters must wear hi-vis jackets; and that the proposed requirement that those aged 16 to 18 wear a helmet be extended to include all adult users of e-scooters.

NOM 4/2022**Notice given by: Cllr. A. Cheevers****Date Received: 14th February 2022**

That Galway City Council ringfence monies received from derelict and vacant sites levies for the specific area that they are received for investment into local projects.
Response issued on 16th March 2022.

NOM 5/2022**Notice given by: Cllr. O. Hanley****Date Received: 4th March 2022**

That Galway City Council will install a controlled pedestrian crossing on the Headford Road north of the Kirwan Junction to increase safety and support pedestrian access between communities

NOM 6/2022**Submitted at Annual Budget meeting on 22nd November 2021****Proposed by: Cllr. C. Connolly Seconded by: Cllr. O. Hanley**

That Galway City Council calls on the Government to introduce legislation to impose levies on homes that are purchased as investment properties..

6. QUESTIONS

Q 02/2022

Question by: Cllr. M. Cubbard

Date Received: 19th February 2022

Ref: O'Sullivan Park Athletic Facility

Can the council provide an update on the above facility in terms of booked hours to date since opening and how much income has been generated

Response issued on 16th March, 2022

Q 03/2022

Question by: Cllr. O. Hanley

Date Received: 4th March 2022

To ask the Council for an update in relation to work in collaboration with the Department of Education to secure accommodation for the Galway Educate Together Secondary School which faces a dire situation. To ask the general locations of the permanent sites currently being investigated, and if those represent medium term solutions, what short term solutions are being progressed?

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Correspondence dated 10th February 2022 received from Office of the Minister for Social Protection
- (b) Correspondence dated 14th February 2022 received from Sligo County Council– Resolutions Agreed by Sligo County Council
- (c) Correspondence dated 22nd February 2022 received from Clare County Council– Resolutions Agreed by Clare County Council
- (d) Correspondence dated 1st March 2022 received from Kerry County Council – Resolutions Agreed by Kerry County Council
- (e) Correspondence received 15th March 2022 regarding Fast -Track Cities Mayors support for Ukrainian People Affected by HIV, TB, and Viral Hepatitis
- (f) Correspondence received 22nd March from Tipperary County Council – Notice of Motion to be circulated to all other Local Authorities
- (g) Correspondence received 31st March from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council – Resolution passed at February Council Meeting
- (h) Correspondence received 31st March from Amanda Shiels - OPR - Publication of New Case Study Paper - CSP05 - Climate Action and the Local Authority Development Plan
- (i) Correspondence received 5th April from Dr Darina McCarthy, Administrative Co-ordinator, Diocesan Office - Invitation to episcopal installation

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons

Seconded By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

Correspondence

These were agreed and approved unanimously.

8. ITEMS FOR COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION

None.

9. CONFERENCES

Conferences:

- 1) **Title:** Irish Planning Institute
Year: 2022
Dates: 7th & 8th of April
Venue: Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel

Proposed By: Cllr. D.Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

Irish Planning Institute - Conference

This was agreed and approved unanimously.

10. VOTES OF SYMPATHY / CONGRATULATIONS

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

VOTES OF SYMPATHY / CONGRATULATIONS

These were agreed and approved unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

