


Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held virtually on zoom platform on Monday 14 th , February 2022 at 3.00 pm.	
Presiding	Cllr. C. Connolly, Mayor of the City of Galway
Present Virtually	Councillors: I. Byrne, A. Cheevers, J. Connolly; M.J. Crowe; M. Cubbard, F. Fahy, O. Hanley, C. Higgins, P. Keane, N. Larkin, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, N. Murphy, M. O'Connor & T. O'Flaherty
Apologies	Councillor E. Hoare
Present	Mr. B McGrath, Chief Executive Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer
Present Virtually	Ms. P. Philibin, Director of Services Mr. P. Greene, Director of Services Ms. R. McNally, Director of Services Mr. B. Barrett, Senior Executive Officer Mr. D. Mahon, Senior Executive Officer Ms. H. Martyn, Administrative Officer Mr. M. Lally, Executive Engineer Mr. L. Fanning, Senior Engineer Mr. T. Prendergast, A/Senior Executive Engineer Ms. H. Coleman, Senior Executive Planner Mr. C. O'Riordan, Senior Executive Engineer Ms. M. Harrington, Executive Planner Ms. K. Molony, Executive Planner Mr. G. McMahon, Arts Officer Mr. R. Lehmann, Tourism Officer Ms. E. Lawless, Administrative Officer Ms. C. Morgan, Administrative Officer Ms. A. Finn, Administrative Officer Ms. L. Sharkey, Senior Staff Officer Ms. A. Gavin, Staff Officer Ms. T. O'Donoghue, Staff Officer Ms. H. Kilbride, Clerical Officer Mr. B. Madden, Staff Officer Mr. J. Whelan, Executive Engineer Ms. C. Phelan, Senior Planner Ms. E. Finan, A/Administrative Officer Ms. G. Reilly, A/Assistant Staff Officer Ms. S. King, Clerical Officer

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

Ms. A. Rohan, 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.

Minutes, Confirmed & Signed

 Mayor of Galway

Mayor C. Connolly welcomed all to the meeting and suggested that the agenda be considered as laid out and that the Council take a break at 4.45pm and that agenda item 4(a) be taken at 500pm. This was agreed.

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to a recommendation she wished to put forward regarding agenda item 4(a) as follows: 'That the Salthill Cycle Lane terminate at Blackrock.'

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1(a) Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on 24th & 31st January 2022

Mayor C. Connolly invited matters of accuracy and matters arising. There were no matters of accuracy. The following was raised under matters arising:

Cllr. J. Connolly referred to item 4a on page 3 regarding the time frame for the consultation process and advised that he queried whether legislative requirements were met. It was agreed that the minute reflect this.

Cllr. T. O'Flaherty also raised matters under item 4(d) seeking a response to her question on a start and finish date; she queried when changing units will be installed at Ballyloughane beach expressing her dissatisfaction regarding delivery of same. She requested that the motion she submitted 46/2021 relating to the derelict sites legislation be considered.

Cllr. M. Cubbard referred to page 3 on minutes and sought a response regarding the upgrading of tennis courts.

Cllr. A. Cheevers referred to a motion that he submitted to ringfence monies from derelict and vacant sites levies for investment into local projects and this was seconded by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty.

A number of Councillors queried when a response to questions raised at previous meeting regarding the Chief Executive Reports from December and January will be responded to.

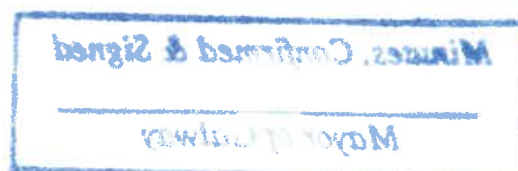
Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator advised that due to the volume of queries that she was collating responses and that they will be issued as soon as possible.

Ms. C. Kilcoyne, Senior Engineer and the Chief Executive responded to queries raised by Councillors.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis

**1(a) Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on 24th & 31st
January 2022**

The minutes were agreed and adopted.



1(b) Special meeting held regarding City Development Plan on Monday 10th, Wednesday 12th & Friday 14th January 2022

Mayor C. Connolly invited matters of accuracy and matters arising on the minutes. None were raised.

Proposed By: Cllr. F. Fahy Seconded By: Cllr. M O'Connor

1(b) Special meeting held regarding City Development Plan on Monday 10th, Wednesday 12th & Friday 14th January 2022

The minutes were agreed and adopted.

2. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE

2(a) To consider changing the date of the March 2022 Ordinary City Council meeting scheduled for Monday 14th March 2022

Mayor C. Connolly advised that both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor have commitments on Monday 14th March and will be unable to attend this meeting and requested Councillors to consider an alternative date.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis Seconded By: Cllr. F. Fahy

To change the date of the March 2022 Ordinary City Council meeting scheduled for Monday 14th March 2022 to Monday 21st March 2022 at 3pm.

This was agreed.

2(b) Raising of a Loan under the Capital Assistance Scheme for the acquisition of properties by Approved Housing Bodies

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillor to agenda item 2(b).

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

Item 2(b) Report for the raising of a Loan under the Capital Assistance Scheme for the acquisition of properties by Approved Housing Bodies to the value of €657,244 – per Report circulated 9th February namely: 45 Sailin; 169 Lios an Uisce and 31 Luí na Gréine.

This was agreed and adopted.

2(c) Raising of a Loan in relation to the Local Authority Home Loan Scheme

Cllr. N. McNelis queried if under this scheme the purchaser could resell a property and if there were any charges for selling the property within a period of time.

Mr. D. Mahon, SEO advised that there is an incremental charge placed on properties acquired under the Tenant Purchase Scheme over a twenty-year period.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons

Seconded By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

Item 2(c) Raising of a Loan to the value of €4,100,000 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, through the Housing Finance Agency, for the purpose of granting house purchase and improvement loans in Galway City in relation to the Local Authority Home Loan Scheme – per Report circulated 9th February, 2022.

This was agreed and approved.

2(d) To consider amending Standing Orders (see report from Procedures Committee Meeting held on the 8th of February 2022 (Agenda Item 3b)

Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator gave an update to the meeting regarding recommendations from the Procedures Committee Meeting held on the 8th of February, 2022. She advised of the recommendation relating to a proposed insertion to Standing Order no. 14 - Order of Business. She added that a review of Standing Orders will be carried out and invited Councillors to submit any proposed amendments or additions to Standing Orders that they would like the Procedures Committee to consider.

Councillors discussed matters including difficulty in editing/printing certain documents i.e. scanned documents; delays in getting responses to written Notices of Motions and Questions on the agenda and circulation of database.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

Seconded By: Cllr. N Larkin

Propose to submit changes for consideration regarding the Review of Standing Orders to the Meetings Administrator by 31st March 2022.

This was agreed and approved.

Proposed By: Cllr. F. Fealy

Seconded By: Cllr. M. O'Connor

Propose to amend Standing Order No. 14 – Order of Business to include the following:

Items on the agenda under Item 1 – (Confirmation of Minutes) a maximum of 30 minutes in total will be allocated for the consideration of agenda item 1. Councillors may each address the Council for not more than one minute.

This was agreed and adopted.

Proposed By: Cllr. F. Fahy

Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis

Propose to accept recommendations of the Procedures Committee

That Council Meetings be held in a hybrid format at the Galmont Hotel and for this to be reviewed at the end of April by the Procedures Committee in advance of the May Ordinary Council meeting;

That reports will issue in readable PDF that facilitates Councillors to copy and paste relevant text, as necessary;

That the database tracking motions be distributed to Councillors and placed on the extranet;

That the Executive commit to holding Area Committee Meetings as soon as possible;

That a visual timer clock be on screen or in a visible place at meetings.

This was agreed and adopted.

3. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3(a) Corporate Policy Group meeting Friday 4th February 2022

Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator updated the meeting in relation to matters discussed at the CPG meeting including the Training & Development Programme for Councillors for 2022.

She referred to the Placenames Committee / An Coiste Logainmneacha Chathair na Gaillimhe and a recommendation from the Corporate Policy Group that an individual Councillor from each of the three Area Wards be represented on same. This recommendation was agreed by Council and Councillors were invited to write to the Meeting Administrator if they wished to become a member of this Committee. Cllr. D. Lyons advised that he is a member of the Committee and would like to continue in this role.

Cllr. N. McNelis referred to the motion passed by Council on 14th June 2021 to establish a Committee to examine the naming of publicly owned lands and buildings in Galway city after persons and motions on same passed by previous Councils. Ms. A. Rohan advised that a draft policy report will be brought before the next Corporate Policy Group meeting for consideration.

3(b) Procedure Committee Meeting Tuesday 8th February 2022

Proposed By: Cllr. F. Fahy

Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis

Propose to take both items 3(a) and (b) as noted.

This was agreed.

4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

4(b) Chief Executive's Report:

- (i) January 2022
- (ii) February 2022

Councillors discussed agenda Item 4(b). Mayor C. Connolly suggested that the Chief Executive Report for January and February be considered along with the Quarter 4 Report 2021 for the Transportation department.

Councillors discussed the Reports and raised queries and clarifications on same.

Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer and the Chief Executive addressed questions and clarifications raised by Councillors.

Cllr. M. Cubbard submitted an initial proposal as follows: 'I propose that the Transport and Infrastructure department carry out a safety audit of the Letteragh Road as a matter of urgency, with a particular focus on pedestrian safety, with the report to come back before the council no later than the Ordinary meeting in May 2022. Following discussion, alternative wording for the motion was agreed.

Proposed By: Cllr. M. Cubbard Seconded By: Cllr. F. Fahy

That Galway City Council would seek improving infrastructure on the Letteragh Road as a matter of urgency.

This was agreed and approved.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. M. O'Connor

Item no. 7. Correspondences were noted.

Item no. 9. Conferences, Approved Training and Other Events were approved.

Item no. 10 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations were approved.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence dated 19th January 2022 received from Ann McLoughlin Higgins – Thank Mayor & Council members.
2. Correspondence dated 25th January 2022 received from Sligo County Council.
3. Correspondence dated 25th January 2022 received from Galway County Council.
4. Correspondence dated 1st February 2022 to The Mayor Aldermen & Burgesses of the Borough of Galway- notice of operative date of the N6 Galway City Ring Road Motorway Scheme 2018.

9. CONFERENCES

Conferences:

Title: Celtic Conferences – Tourism & Digital Marketing
Venue: Carlingford, Co. Louth
Date: 4th, 5th & 6th March 2022

Approved Training

1) Title: AILG: Elected Member's Personal Safety and Risk Assessment Module 1
Year: 2022
Dates: 17th or 19th February 2022
Venue: Westmeath or Cork

Event:

Title: Galway Association Coventry are holding their 55th Annual Dinner and Dance
Venue: Britannia Royal Court Hotel Coventry, U.K.
Date: 7th May 2022

Other Events

St. Patrick's Day festivities 2022 - Seattle Sister Cities Twinning Event

10. VOTES OF SYMPATHY/ CONGRATULATIONS

Vote of Congratulations to Mr. Gerry Daly, City Council employee on the recent publication of his poem 'The Claddagh'.

A break commenced at 4:44pm and the meeting resumed at 5pm.

4(a) Proposed Temporary Cycle Lane at Salthill – report on Public Consultation

Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer and Ms. A. Finn, A/Administrative Officer presented Reports and appendices that were circulated.

Mayor C. Connolly submitted the following recommendation for consideration:

Proposed By: **Cllr. C Connolly**

Seconded By: **Cllr. O Hanley**

Following the non-statutory public consultation process I propose the following 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 Blackrock to Barna/Kingston junction.

Councillors discussed the matter in detail and raised both individual support and concerns regarding the Temporary Cycle Lane at Salthill including the consultation process; stakeholder engagement; concerns regarding blue light services; seeking a more permanent solution in reference to the Atkins Report; concerns regarding the proposed reduction in cycle lane standards/ guidelines; issues with accessibility

due to reduced parking and impact on public transport. Councillors generally supported the desire to improve cycling infrastructure in the city. Councillors also discussed unacceptable threats; abusive emails and aggressive phone calls that they received recently.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons

Seconded By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

Proposed to finish item 4(a) and extend the meeting until 7.30pm and to review same at this time.

A 10-minute break was taken at 18:36pm and the meeting resumed at 18.46pm due to a security issue.

After the break responses to Councillors queries and clarifications were given by Ms. A. Finn, A/Administrative Officer and Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons

Seconded By: Cllr. C. Higgins

Proposed to extend meeting until item 4(a) is finished.

This was agreed.

Councillors discussed the recommendation put forward by Cllr. C. Connolly querying if it was an amendment to Cllr. P. Keane's motion.

Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator read out Standing Orders no. 32 and 36 in relation to the motions.

Cllr. D. Lyons proposed that legal advice be sought on Mayor C. Connolly's recommendation. This was supported by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty.

The Chief Executive advised that legal advice on Mayor C. Connolly's recommendation could be sought if so wished. It was confirmed that any material change in the temporary cycleway will go to public consultation.

Cllr. C. Connolly proposed that the recommendation she submitted be considered as a motion. The motion was seconded by Cllr. O. Hanley.

It was noted that should Cllr. P. Keane's motion be supported that Mayor C. Connolly's Motion would then be nullified.

Mayor C. Connolly requested a five-minute adjournment at 20:24pm, this was agreed and the meeting recommenced at 20.30pm.

Cllr. P. Keane motion on the Agenda under Standing Orders no. 32 - Motion to Amend or Revoke Resolutions was discussed.

Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator proceeded to take a Roll Call Vote:

Proposed By: Cllr. P. Keane

Seconded By: Cllr. D. McDonnell

That Galway City Council resolves to revoke a Resolution made by this Council on the 27th September 2021 to wit:- That Galway City Council shall urgently seek to create a two-way segregated cycle track on a temporary basis along the coastal side of Salthill promenade, specifically the R336 from the junction with Grattan Road up to the junction of the Prom/Blackrock Tower and a one-way cycle track from the latter junction up to where the R336 meets with the R337, and shall immediately apply for COVID-19 funding or any available alternative source of funding to facilitate this

In Favour: Cllr. I Byrne; Cllr. A. Cheevers; Cllr. J. Connolly; Cllr. M.J. Crowe; Cllr. M. Cubbard; Cllr. F. Fahy; Cllr. C. Higgins; Cllr. P. Keane; Cllr. N. Larkin; Cllr. D. Lyons; Cllr. D. McDonnell; Cllr. N. McNelis & Cllr. T. O'Flaherty.

Against: Cllr. C. Connolly; Cllr. O. Hanley; Cllr. N. Murphy & Cllr. M. O'Connor

In Favour: 13 Against: 4 Abstain: 0 Present: 17

The Motion was passed.

Councillors discussed cycling infrastructure in the city. Cllr. M.J. Crowe requested that an update on cycling infrastructure be put as an agenda item for the March Ordinary Council. This was seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell and agreed.

The Chief Executive advised that a Report will be brought forward to Council.

Cllr. N. McNelis proposed that an adjournment meeting be held to finish remaining items on the agenda on Monday 28th February at 3pm. Councillors discussed alternative dates for an adjournment meeting. Cllr. D. McDonnell proposed Monday 7th March at 3pm and this was seconded by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty. The majority of Councillors were in favour of Monday 28th February, 2022 as the date for the adjournment meeting.

Proposed By: Cllr. N McNelis

Seconded By: Cllr. C Connolly

Proposal to have an adjournment meeting to finish remaining items on the agenda on Monday 28th February at 3pm.

It was agreed that an Event Licensing Report for the St Patricks Day parade be issued as a supplementary item to the agenda and to be considered as the first item at the meeting.

This was agreed.

4(c) Galway City Council Sports Club Grants 2021 and the Minority Sports & Physical Activity Grants 2021

Item 4(c) was noted.

This meeting ended at 20:45 pm.

Minutes of the Ordinary Adjournment Meeting of Galway City Council held virtually on zoom platform and in The Galmont Hotel on Monday 28th February 2022 at 3.00 p.m.	
Presiding	Cllr. C. Connolly, Mayor of the City of Galway
Present	Cllr. A. Cheevers; Cllr. M.J. Crowe & Cllr. N. Murphy
Present Virtually	Cllr. M. Cubbard; Cllr. O. Hanley; Cllr. E. Hoare; Cllr. P. Keane; Cllr. N. Larkin; Cllr. D. Lyons; Cllr. N. McNelis; Cllr. M. O'Connor; Cllr. T. O'Flaherty
Apologies	Cllr. I. Byrne; Cllr. J. Connolly; Cllr. F. Fahy; Cllr C. Higgins & Cllr. D. McDonnell
Present	Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator Ms. S. King, Clerical Officer
Present Virtually	Ms. P. Philbin, Director of Services Mr. P. Greene, Director of Services Ms. R. McNally, Director of Services Mr. D. Mahon, Senior Executive Officer Mr. B. Barrett, A/Director of Services Ms. C. Phelan, Senior Planner Mr. L. Blake, Senior Executive Planner Mr. R. Lehmann, Tourism Officer Mr. U. Finn, Senior Engineer Ms. C. Kilcoyne, Senior Engineer Ms. L. Fanning, Senior Engineer Mr. M. McDonagh, Staff Officer Ms. E. Finan, A/Administrative Officer Mr. D. Feeney, A/Staff Officer

Mayor C. Connolly welcomed all to the adjournment meeting and proposed the suspension of Standing Orders to consider a motion under Standing Order no. 34 for the purpose of dealing with urgent business. This was seconded by Cllr. N. Murphy and agreed.

Councillors discussed the motion put forward by Cllr. C. Connolly and echoed their support for same. Cllr. M. Cubbard advised the meeting that Sound to Light Ltd. have offered to light public buildings in the Ukrainian colours, if desired.

Proposed By: Cllr. C. Connolly	Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers
Motion to fly the Ukrainian flag outside City Hall at 1 pm on Tuesday 29th February, 2022 for the duration of the war in the Ukraine or until there is a ceasefire by Russia.	
This was agreed and adopted	

Mayor C. Connolly invited all Councillors and member of the Ukrainian community to attending the flag raising event and advised that she will extend an invite to the Ukrainian Ambassador to Ireland.

Cllr. D. Lyons proposed the reintroduction of Standing Orders, this was seconded by Cllr. N. Murphy and agreed.

2. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE

2(a) Event Licensing Report for the St Patrick's Day Parade under Section 238 of the Planning Act

Mr. L Blake, Senior Executive Planner presented the Report as circulated to Council advising the proposed event; objections and observations; interdepartmental/consultee reports; appraisal and recommendation that an outdoor event licence be issued for the event subject to nine conditions. A map of the route for the St. Patricks Day Parade was displayed.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons

Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis

Proposal to approve the event license for the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

This was agreed and adopted.

Councillors raised matters including the request for additional litter management during and after the parade; mitigations for crowd and traffic management; safety concerns regarding illegal drinking; sufficient stewards in place and welcoming the public consultation.

Mr. L. Blake, SEP and Mr. R. Lehmann, Tourism Officer responded to queries raised confirming that there will be viewing platforms for disabled persons and this has been advertised. A request for a theme of 'Peace' will be relayed to participants at the event. Additional suitable locations for toilets will be examined in consultation with residents including in the Woodquay area. Mr. Lehmann also confirmed the green mile running event and other events will held over the St. Patrick's weekend.

Mayor. C. Connolly referred Councillors to agenda item 4(b). It was agreed that elements relating to housing in both of the Chief Executive's Reports and the Housing Quarterly Report be considered together.

4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

4(b) Chief Executive's Report:

- (i) January 2022**
- (ii) February 2022**

4(d) Quarterly Report - Oct to Dec 2021

ii. Housing

Councillors raised queries and clarifications to which Mr. D. Mahon, Senior Executive Officer responded to in detail.

Proposed By: Cllr. M. Cubbard Seconded By: Cllr. M. O'Connor

As a matter of urgency, Galway City call on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien T.D. to furnish the regulations and qualifying criteria for the anticipated Affordable Housing units in Galway City.

This was agreed and approved.

The Council took a break at 16:57pm and the meeting resumed at 17:15pm.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers

To conclude the adjourned Council Meeting at 18:30pm.

This was agreed.

4(b) Chief Executive's Report:

- (i) January 2022
- (ii) February 2022

4(d) Quarterly Report - Oct to Dec 2021

- (iii) Environment & Climate Change
- (iv) Recreation & Amenity

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

Proposed that both Chief Executive's Report and the Environment & Climate Change and Recreation & Amenity Quarterly Reports be considered together. This was agreed.

Councillors raised queries and clarifications on the Chief Executive's Reports for January 2022 and February 2022 and the Quarterly Report. Ms. C Kilcoyne, Senior Engineer responded to queries raised.

Proposed By: Cllr. T. O'Flaherty Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers

That the toilets at Ballyloughane be opened at the weekends during the winter period.

This was agreed and adopted.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. M. O'Connor

To conclude the adjourned Council Meeting at 18:13pm.

This was agreed.

This meeting concluded at 18:13pm.