

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Galway City Council held virtually on zoom platform on Monday 30th of May 2022 at 3.00 pm.	
Presiding	Cllr. C. Connolly, Mayor of the City of Galway
Present	Councillors; J. Connolly; M.J. Crowe, F. Fahy, O. Hanley, P. Keane, N. McNelis & M. O'Connor
Present (virtually)	Councillors: A. Cheevers, M. Cubbard, C. Higgins, E. Hoare, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell & T. O'Flaherty,
Apologies	Councillors: I. Byrne, N. Larkin & N. Murphy
Present	Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator Ms. S. King, Assistant Staff Officer
Present (virtually)	Ms. P. Philbin, Deputy Chief Executive Ms. R. McNally, Director of Services Mr. P. Greene, Director of Services Mr. B. Barrett, Senior Executive Officer Mr. F. McEvoy, Senior Executive Engineer Mr. R. Lehmann, Tourism Officer Ms. M. Walsh, Clerical Officer

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.

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

1. NOTICES OF MOTION

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to NOM 7/2021. M.J. Crowe spoke on the motion.

<p>NOM 7/2021 Notice given by: Cllr. M.J. Crowe Seconded by: Cllr. F. Fahy Date Received: 11th February 2021</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>The Motion was agreed unanimously and approved.</p>

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to NOM 13/2021 proposed by Cllr. M.J. Crowe who requested to defer the matter and subsequently advised that he wished to withdraw same.

NOM 13/2021

Notice given by: Cllr. M.J. Crowe **Seconded by:** Cllr. D. McDonnell

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

The Motion was withdrawn.

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to NOM 28/2021. Cllr. M. O'Connor spoke on the motion.

NOM 28/2021

Notice given by: Cllr. M. O'Connor **Seconded by:** Cllr. O. Hanley

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

The Motion was agreed unanimously and approved.

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to NOM 33/2021. Cllr. C. Connolly requested to withdraw the motion submitted due to the matter being discussed at a national level since the motion was submitted.

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.

The Motion was withdrawn.

Mayor C. Connolly referred Councillors to NOM 40/2021. Cllr. C. Connolly spoke on the motion submitted.

NOM 40/2021

Notice given by: Cllr. C. Connolly **Seconded by:** Cllr. N. McNelis

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

The Motion was agreed unanimously and approved.

Cllr. N. McNelis spoke on Motion no 41/2021 that he submitted.

NOM 41/2021

Notice given by: Cllr. N. McNelis **Seconded by:** Cllr. D. McDonnell

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.

The Motion was agreed unanimously and approved.

Cllr. T. O’Flaherty spoke on motion no. 03/2022 that she submitted. Councillors discussed the motion. Cllr. T. O’Flaherty agreed to change the wording to include all users and age groups.

Councillors discussed the capability of e-scooters reaching a speed of 35 km/h.; the number of private enterprises offering e-scooter services in Galway city that have capped speed limit so helmets would not be needed; the practicality of carrying around a helmet; the importance of hi-vis jackets & helmets as a good safety measure and the inclusion of education for other road users to be alert to cyclists and e-scooter users.

The Chief Executive advised that legislation has been published regarding this matter and is due to be enacted. He recommended that the wording of the motion be considered to include best international practice and advice from the National Roads Authority, and, if approved by Council to then be submitted to the Department of Transport promptly in time for consideration.

NOM 03/2022

Notice given by: Cllr. T. O'Flaherty **Seconded by:** Cllr. D. Lyons

Date Received: 01st February 2022

Wording amended at meeting on 30th May 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 wearing a helmet be extended to include all adult users of e-scooters.

The Motion was deferred and consideration to be given to rewording same for inclusion on the June Council meeting agenda.

It was proposed by Cllr. F. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. M. J. Crowe and agreed that motion no. 18/2021 be held back earlier in the meeting. Cllr. A. Cheevers joined the meeting and Mayor C. Connolly referred Council to same for consideration.

Councillors discussed the motion.

Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive recommended that a Report be brought to Council on the matter before a decision is taken.

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

Notice given by: Cllr. A. Cheevers **Seconded by:** Cllr. N. McNelis

Date Received: 7th April 2021 (Amended wording 30th May 2022)

That Galway City Council to permanently pedestrianise cross street and that would be from the Dáil Bar to Supermacs and to work with businesses to ensure the safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

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

The Motion was deferred.

Mayor C. Connolly spoke on Motion 06/2022 that she submitted.

Councillors discussed the motion.

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

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.
In Favour: Cllr. C. Connolly, M. Cubbard, O. Hanley, N. McNelis & M. O'Connor
Against: Cllr. J. Connolly, M.J. Crowe, F. Fahy, C. Higgins, E. Hoare, P. Keane, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell & T. O'Flaherty
In Favour: 5 Against: 9 Abstain: 0 Present: 14
The Motion was defeated.

Cllr. C. Connolly adjourned the meeting for a break at 16:12pm and the meeting resumed at 16:18pm.

Cllr. O. Hanley spoke on Motion no. 7/2022 that he submitted.

Councillors discussed the motion.

The Chief Executive responded to queries raised.

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

NOM 7/2022 Submitted on the 19th April 2022 (Amended wording 30th May 2022) Proposed by: Cllr. O. Hanley Seconded by: Cllr. C. Connolly
"That Galway City Council will endeavour to allocate resources in the next annual budget and annual work plan to progress a feasibility study for a swimming pool and associated ancillary facilities in Doughiska on RA zoned lands, as per Chapter 4 of the City Development Plan 2017 -2023
In Favour: Cllr. C. Connolly, J. Connolly, M.J. Crowe, M. Cubbard, F. Fahy, O. Hanley, C. Higgins, E. Hoare, P. Keane, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, N. McNeils, M. O'Connor & T. O'Flaherty
In Favour: 14 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Present: 14
The Motion was passed.

The meeting concluded at 16:50pm.