

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of Galway City Council
held virtually on zoom platform on Monday 7th March, 2022 at 3.00 p.m.**

Presiding:	Cllr. C. Connolly, Mayor of the City of Galway
Present Virtually:	Councillors: A. Cheevers; J. Connolly; M.J. Crowe; M. Cubbard; F. Fahy; O. Hanley; C. Higgins; E. Hoare; N. Larkin; D. Lyons; D. McDonnell; M. O'Connor & T. O'Flaherty.
Apologies:	Councillors: I. Byrne; P. Keane; N. McNelis & N. Murphy
Present:	Ms. P. Philbin, Director of Services Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator
Present Virtually:	Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive Mr. M. McDonagh, Staff Officer Ms. S. King, Clerical Officer

The Meeting commenced 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 proposed that Standing Orders be suspended and that the Meeting be held in committee and an extension to Councillor speaking time to discuss the proposed awarding of Freedom of the City of Galway in line with Standing Order No. 114. This was seconded by Cllr. F. Fahy and agreed.

Following conclusion of the meeting held in committee, Mayor C. Connolly suggested a five minute break at 3.39pm to allow media access the meeting. The Special Council meeting resumed at 3.45pm and Standing Orders were reintroduced.


Mayor C. Connolly advised of the Motion that was agreed and passed at the in committee meeting to accord Freedom of the City of Galway, Honoras Causa to the following:

- the late Helena known as Ena McEntee and to Patricia Burke Brogan

Mayor C. Connolly spoke on behalf of the Council and outlined the reasons why both women are richly deserving of the highest honour Galway City Council can bestow on anyone. She described Patricia Burke Brogan as an activist, humanitarian, poet and playwright. She said that the late Ena McEntee was a woman of courage, a caring soul, kind and considerate, a mother, a friend and a rescuer to women in the Magdalene Laundry.

Mayor C. Connolly went on to advise how both women did their utmost in such trying times, they stepped up to the mark with support from their family to help the women in the Magdalene Laundry and to publicise what happened there.

Mayor C. Connolly further outlined how fitting it was that International Women's Day will be held tomorrow Tuesday 8th March, 2022 and advised that the Council will liaise with both families to agree a suitable date and time to bestow the honour. Mayor C. Connolly also thanked fellow Councillors for their support and agreement.

Minutes, Confirmed & Signed

Mayor of Galway