

MINUTES OF ATHLONE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT SPECIAL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, ROSCOMMON, ON FRIDAY THE 11TH MARCH 2016 AT 9.30A.M.

PRESENT: Councillor Ivan Connaughton, Cathaoirleach **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr L. Fallon, Cllr J. Keogh, Cllr J. Naughten, Cllr T. Ward

OFFICIALS: Ms. Majella Hunt, Director of Services
Mr. Martin Lydon, A/Director of Services
Mr. Diarmuid MacDonncha, Municipal District Co-ordinator
Ms. Mary Grier, Senior Planner
Mr. Alan O'Connell, A/Senior Executive Planner

01.16. The Chief Executive's Report on submissions received on the Draft Monksland/Bellanamullia (Athlone West) Local Area Plan 2015 – 2021

A copy of the Chief Executive's Report on the Submissions received on the Draft Monksland/Bellanamullia Local Area Plan 2015 – 2021 was previously circulated to the members.

Mr. Martin Lydon, A/Director of Services summarised each submission received for the Monksland/Bellanamullia Local Area Plan from the following groups:

Submission No. 1: Office of the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 2: Slevin Brothers

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 3: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 4: Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fallon

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 5: Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 6: Inland Fisheries Ireland

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submissions No. 7 & 13: St. Aloysius College & St. Joseph's College and Summerhill Primary School

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fallon

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submissions No. 8, 20, 21 & 24: Mr. D. Kenny and Mr. J. Kenny

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Naughten

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 9: Irish Water

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 10: Athlone Properties

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fallon

SECONDED by Councillor Naughten

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented in relation to amending Specific Objectives 2 and 3 (as set out in Chapter 6: Land Use Zoning Figures and Matrix).

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughten

It was **AGREED** that the subject lands proposed in the Draft LAP to be zoned as 'Recreation & Amenity' be reduced to c.1 hectare and to zone the remainder of those lands as 'District Centre'.

Submission No. 11: Westward Group

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughten

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as amended.

Submission No. 12: Councillor John Naughten

The recommendation of the Chief Executive was not accepted.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was instead **AGREED** to rezone c.4 hectares from 'Strategic Residential Reserve' to 'Recreational & Amenity' in the area adjacent to the Cross River

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to remove the southernmost line of the indicative link road through a residential area and to retain the northernmost line of the indicative link road

It was proposed by Councillor Keogh that if lands are zoned 'Residential', a road should be provided to allow direct access to the green area as the current access is through a housing estate which is not taken in charge

Submission No. 14: Northern & Western Regional Assembly

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 15: Michael Ganly

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 16: Gerard Dolan

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 17: Forward Planning Section, Department of Education & Science

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fallon

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 18: Denis Naughten TD

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submissions No. 19 & 22: Mr. Donal Kenny and Ms. Vivienne Kenny

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submission No. 23: Mr. Raymond Fallon

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughten

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

Submissions No. 25 & 26: Mr. Donal Kenny & 283 other signatories and 296 pro forma letters

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fallon

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to accept the Chief Executive's recommendation as presented.

The members raised the following issues:

- Should look at development of area surrounding Cross River as an amenity
- Lack of direct access to green belt area could lead to anti-social behaviour
- Number of concerns with road junctions in the area
- Traffic survey should be conducted to plan for future development
- Wastewater Treatment Plant currently close to its capacity – clarification needs to be sought on future proposals
- Important that land is developed in a sustainable manner
- Vacant properties should be utilised – public need to be made aware of the Rate Incentive Scheme
- Concern that recreational area is too close to main road – query the standard size of a green/recreational area
- Lands identified as educational on northern portion of map be reclassified as recreational to provide additional facilities
- Issue with anti-social behaviour at community facilities at Roscommon County Council Offices in Monksland
- Lack of potential lands identified for burial grounds
- Issue with lack of accessible walking and cycling routes around schools

Mr. Martin Lydon, A/Director of Services responded to queries raised as follows:

- There are no development levies associated with change of use to a vacant property
- No set guidelines to determine the size of a park or green area
- As per the land use zoning matrix, burial grounds are 'acceptable in principle' or 'open to consideration' in a number of land use zonings

Mr. Alan O'Connell, A/Senior Executive Planner responded to the issues raised as follows:

- Capacity of the wastewater treatment plant relates to hydrological loading rather than biological loading.
- Irish Water to carry out some minor upgrade works to bio-tower

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

It was **AGREED** to the correct a textual error on page 27 of the plan and amend the number of households from 6,200 to 2,480, and to correctly refer to the Core Strategy instead of Housing Strategy for County Roscommon.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:

Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach

Countersigned