Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held in the Council Chamber, City Hall and Online via MS Teams on Monday 8th July 2024 at 3.00p.m.	
Presiding	Cllr. P. Keane, Mayor of the City of Galway
Present (Elected Members)	Councillors: A. Burke, A. Cheevers, J. Connolly, M. Cubbard, J. Forde, S. Forde, C. Higgins, E. Hoare, D. Lyons, J. McDonagh, N. McNelis, H. Ogbu, E. Seoighthe
Present (virtually)	Councillors: A. Curran, D. McDonnell, T. O'Flaherty
Apologies	Cllr. F. Fahy Ms. P. Philbin, Director of Services
Present (Executive)	Mr. L. Cleary, Chief Executive Mr. P. Greene, Director of Services Ms. H. Kilroy, Director of Finance & ICT Mr. D. Pender, Director of Services Ms. L. Fanning, A/Director of Services Ms. F. Holland, Senior Engineer Ms. L. Hynes, Financial Management Accountant (Online) Mr. B. Barrett, Senior Executive Officer (Online) Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator Ms. A. Kenny, Administrative 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 intent to conduct the business of the meeting in line with Standing Orders followed by a moment of silent reflection.

Mayor P. Keane welcomed all and proposed a minute of silent reflection for the following:

- Dr. Gay Corr (RIP), the first ever President of Galway Regional Technical College (now the ATU).
- Mr. John O'Mahony (RIP), former Galway Senior Football Manager, TD and Senator.

This was Seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons and agreed.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1(a) Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on 13th May 2024.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 1(a) and invited comments.

Proposed By: Cllr. E. Hoare	**Seconded By: Cllr. C. Higgins**
1(a) Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Galway City Council held on 13th May 2024	
The minutes of the May meeting were agreed and adopted.	

Mayor P. Keane invited matters arising and matters of accuracy.

There were no matters of accuracy. Matters arising were as follows:

Cllr. J. Connolly referred to the NTA presentation to Members and asked for confirmation as to when this will take place. He added that this has been requested a few times and asked if this could be reflected in the minutes.

Mayor P. Keane informed Members that the NTA have agreed to present at the September meeting.

Cllr. M. Cubbard referred to Raleigh Row and queried what conversation has been had with the school and what feedback has been received. He also referred to the large scale sports fund and queried what applications have been submitted for funding.

The Executive responded to queries raised.

In relation to the Raleigh Row, Mr. P. Greene responded that this matter is covered by Active Travel and that he would get a written response for Cllr. Cubbard on this matter.

1(b) Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on 31st May 2024.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 1(b) and invited comments. There were no matters arising or matters of accuracy.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis	**Seconded By: Cllr. E. Hoare**
1(b) Special Meeting of Galway City Council held on 31st May 2024	
The minutes of the Special meeting were agreed and adopted.	

1(c) Annual Meeting of Galway City Council held on 21st June 2024

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 1(c) and invited comments. There were no matters arising or matters of accuracy.

Proposed By: Cllr. N. McNelis	**Seconded By: Cllr. M. Cubbard**
1(c) Annual meeting of Galway City Council held on 21st June 2024	
The minutes of the Annual meeting were agreed and adopted.	

2. BUSINESS PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE

2 (a) Draft Strategic Policy Committee Scheme.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 2(a) and invited comments.

Mr. L. Cleary, Chief Executive, gave a briefing on the draft scheme and process.

A discussion followed and a number of queries were raised and responded to by the Executive.
Cllr. A. Cheevers nominated the following as Chairs of the following SPCs:

- Social Development SPC - Cllr. D. McDonnell
- Operational Development SPC - Cllr. J. Connolly
- Project Development SPC - Cllr. M. Cubbard
- Tourism Development SPC - Cllr. N. McNelis

This was Seconded by Cllr. A. Burke and agreed.

Cllr. C. Higgins nominated Cllr. D. Lyons as Chair of the Urban Development SPC. This was Seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons and agreed.

Cllr. D. Lyons nominated Cllr. C. Higgins as Chair of the Corporate Development SPC. This was Seconded by Cllr. C. Higgins and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed the following Chairs to the 6 SPCs:

1. Social Development SPC - Cllr. D. McDonnell
2. Operational Development SPC - Cllr. J. Connolly
3. Project Development SPC - Cllr. M. Cubbard
4. Tourism Development SPC - Cllr. N. McNelis
5. Corporate Development SPC - Cllr. C. Higgins
6. Urban Development SPC - Cllr D. Lyons

Cllr. J. Connolly referred to our obligations under the Irish Language Plan and requested that the Irish language be inserted into one of the functions. This was agreed.

Mayor P. Keane asked for agreement to adopt the draft scheme. This was agreed.

2(a) Draft Strategic Policy Committee Scheme
The draft SPC Scheme was agreed and adopted.

2(b) Nominate two (2) representatives to the Night-Time Economy Working Group Forum.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 2(b) and invited comments.

Cllr. E. Seoighthe proposed that there be 3 representatives on the NTE working group forum, one for each Local Electoral Area. This was agreed.

Pursuant to Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, Cllr. C. Higgins proposed to form a group consisting of: Cllrs. D. Lyons, T. O'Flaherty, E. Seoighthe, A. Curran, E. Hoare. The group nominated Cllr. S. Forde for the East Local Electoral Area. This was agreed.

Cllr. A. Burke nominated Cllr. Mike Cubbard for the Central Local Electoral Area. This was Seconded by Cllr. J. Forde.

Cllr. J. Connolly nominated Cllr. N. McNelis for the West Local Electoral Area. This was Seconded by Cllr. A. Cheeves and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. S. Forde (East LEA), Cllr. M. Cubbard (Central LEA) and Cllr. N. McNelis (West LEA) to be elected to the NTE working group forum.

2(c) Nominate four (4) Elected Members to The Western Intercounty Railway Committee.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 2(c) and invited comments. Members were informed that this is a voluntary committee.

Cllr. N. McNelis nominated Cllr. J. McDonagh. This was Seconded by Cllr. H. Ogbu and agreed.

Cllr. J. Forde nominated Cllr. A. Burke. This was Seconded by Cllr. M. Cubbard and agreed.

Cllr. D. Lyons nominated Cllr. C. Higgins. This was Seconded by Cllr. E. Hoare and agreed.

Cllr. C. Higgins nominated Cllr. F. Fahy. This was Seconded by Cllr. E. Hoare and agreed.

Mayor P. Keane deemed Cllr. J. McDonagh, Cllr. A. Burke, Cllr. C. Higgins and Cllr. F. Fahy be appointed to the Western Intercounty Railway Committee.

3. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3 (a) Draft note of Corporate Policy Committee meeting held on 2nd July 2024.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 3(a) and invited comments.

Cllr. D. Lyons raised his query again in relation to the Salthill Tourist Office and asked for this to be looked at.

Cllr. M. Cubbard asked if Members could have access to the staff search and photos of staff on the intranet.

Mayor P. Keane called for a Proposer and Seconder for agenda item 3(a).

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis**
3 (a) Draft note of Corporate Policy Committee meeting held on 2nd July 2024.	
The notes of the CPG meeting of 2nd July 2024, were noted.	

4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS OF OFFICIALS

4(a) Chief Executive's Report for June & July and Quarterly report for Q2, 2024

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 4(a) and invited comments.

A discussion followed and a number of queries were raised by Members as follows:

- Crown Project – staff consultation process and surveys – can surveys be circulated to Members.
- St. James All Weather facility – have tender document issued.
- Linking of traffic light systems and monitoring of same.
- Traffic calming policy for estates – update requested.
- Sports Clubs grants – level of funding insufficient, can this be looked at.
- Update on timeframes for masterplans.
- Update on Constraints Report for MMT in the City.
- Spanish Arch/Wolfe Tone Pedestrian Crossings – Is NTA approval needed to relocate same.
- IPAS – What steps are being taken to address eviction notices.
- Update on housing targets.
- Timeline for Dyke Road housing project.
- NTA presenting at Sept meeting – Can information be circulated to Councillors in relation to the scope of works for the NTA.
- Playground in Ballinfoile – Update.
- IBAL Report – Ballybane deemed worst area for litter – What are the plans to address this.

The Executive responded to the above queries.

In relation to the traffic lights linking and monitoring, Ms. F. Holland suggested that a presentation on the traffic lights system and how the system works might be more beneficial to Members rather than a report on same.

Mayor P. Keane agreed and proposed a workshop forum on this after August. This was agreed.

In relation to traffic calming, Ms. F. Holland informed Members that a traffic calming scoping document has been done, but that it will need to be approved by the relevant SPC. A written update will issue to Members on this matter.

In relation to the housing issues in Galway City, Mr. L. Cleary informed Members that a meeting has been arranged with the Department of Housing to discuss current blockages around housing in the City. Galway County Council have also been invited to the meeting.

4(b) Local Community Festivals Report 2024.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 4(b) and invited comments.

Cllr. N. McNelis queried why unsuccessful groups did not meet the criteria. Mr. D. Pender agreed to circulate report on this to Members.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	Seconded By: Cllr. N. McNelis
4(b) Local Community Festivals Report 2024.	
The Local Community Festivals Report 2024 was noted and agreed.	

4(c) Galway City Local Community Safety Partnership.

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 4(c) and invited comments.

Mr. D. Pender gave a briefing to Members on the new Local Community Safety Partnership establishment process and informed Members that Expressions of Interest are currently open for the position of Chairperson and that application forms and further information are available on Galway City Council website www.galwaycity.ie.

A discussion followed and a few queries were raised by Members and responded to by Mr. D. Pender.

4(d) Verbal update on Masterplans for Renmore / South Park / Kingston

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 4(d) and invited comments.

Mr. P. Greene gave a verbal update to Members on the 3 Masterplans, Kingston, Southpark and Renmore.

A discussion followed and a few queries were raised by Members and responded to by Mr. P. Greene.

5. **Notice of Motions**
   There was no notice of motions for consideration.

6. **Questions**
   There were no questions for consideration.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 7 and called for a proposer and seconder.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers
(a) Correspondence from Monaghan County Council– NOM passed regarding Free Education Scheme, received on 15/05/2024. **(b)** Correspondence from Fingal County Council - NOM passed regarding Fossil Fuel Non Proliferation Treaty, received on 14/05/2024.	

(c) Correspondence from Clare County Council – NOM passed regarding reconfiguration of HSE, received on 14/05/2024. **(d)** Correspondence from Wicklow County Council – NOM passed regarding funding for a Road Safety Officer for all Local Authorities, received on 20/05/2024. **(e)** ETB Correspondence
All correspondence was noted and agreed.

8. ITEMS FOR COUNCILLORS INFORMATION

There were no items for consideration.

9. CONFERENCES

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 9 and called for a proposer and seconder.

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers		
Webinar 1	Role and Functions of Local Authorities, Operational Structures, and Local Authority Committees	Friday, 28th June 2024
Webinar 2	Role of the Elected Members, Leadership Role of the Elected Council, and Reserved Functions	Friday, 5th July 2024
Webinar 3	Role of the Chief Executive, Executive Functions, Council Meeting Procedures, and Standing Orders	Friday, 12th July 2024
Webinar 4	Local Authority Financing, Funding, and Expenditure	Friday, 19th July 2024
Webinar 5	Elected Members Governance and Oversight Role, Internal and External Audit Committees, and National Oversight and Audit Committee	Friday, 26th July 2024
Webinar 6	Local Authority Plans including Corporate Plan, Annual Service Delivery Plan, Development Plan, and Climate Action Plan	Friday, 2nd August 2024
All training and conferences were noted and agreed.		

10. VOTES OF SYMPATHY / CONGRATULATIONS

Mayor P. Keane referred Members to agenda item 10 and called for a proposer and seconder.

Votes of Sympathy:

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers**
• Mr. Gay Corr, RIP • Mr. John O'Mahony, RIP • Mr. Tom Walsh, RIP • Mr. Denis O'Brien, RIP • Mr. John Maughan, RIP • Ms. Mardette Duffy, RIP •	• Mr. Patrick Meehan, RIP • Ms. Carmel Colclough, RIP • Ms. Nancy Barry, RIP • Ms. Bernadette O'Shaughnessy, RIP • Mr. Michael Turley, RIP • Ms. Marian Mulcahy, RIP • Mr. Ronan Hynes, RIP
Votes of Sympathy were noted.	

Votes of Congratulations:

Proposed By: Cllr. D. Lyons	**Seconded By: Cllr. A. Cheevers**
• Congratulations to Galway Lady Footballers & best wishes for the final. • Roscams John Shortt, on winning the 200 metres Backstroke European Title at the weekend in Lithuania.	
Votes of Congratulations were noted.	

11. OTHER BUSINESS SET FORTH IN THE NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

There were no items for consideration.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. S. Forde referred to the Register of Electors and that there seems to be a lot of deceased people still on the Register and asked how this can be addressed.

Ms. A. Rohan informed Members that lists of deceased persons are downloaded from a national database and updated on the register on a regular basis and that Councillors are also welcome to submit requests also.

Mr. L. Cleary referred to the workshop for Members held on 5th July 2024 and informed Members that there will be a follow up workshop taking place on 3rd September 2024 in the Galmont Hotel which will be facilitated by Dr. Sean O'Riordan.

The meeting concluded at 17:41.

Minutes Confirmed & Signed

Mayor of Galway