

Minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting Friday 23rd February, 2024

In Attendance:	Cllr. D. Lyons, Galway City Council (Chair) Cllr. T. O' Flaherty, Galway City Council Cllr. D. McDonnell, Galway City Council Cllr. E. Hoare, Galway City Council Cllr. A. Cheevers, Galway City Council Cllr. M. O'Connor, Galway City Council Cllr. M. Cubbard, Galway City Council Mr. M. Conneely, Cluid Representative Ms. K. Golden, GCCN Representative
Officials:	Ms. E. Fanning, A/Director of Services, Housing Department Ms. H. Martyn, A/Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department Ms. M. McDonagh, A/Administrative Officer, Housing Department Ms. L. Esler, Administrative Officer, Housing Department Mr. E Humphreys, Senior Executive Architect, Galway City Council Ms. E. Fanning, Senior Engineer, Housing Department Ms. A. Brett, Administrative Officer, Housing Department Ms. M. Fallon Ward, Administrative Officer, Housing Department Mr. D. Healy, A/Administrative Officer, Housing Department Ms. C. Ni Fhlaithearta, Senior Staff Officer, Housing Department
Apologies:	Cllr. I. Byrne, Galway City Council Mr. M. Lohan, Business Sector Representative
Present	Ms. F. Griffin, Assistant Staff Officer, Housing Department

Presentation on works at Ballinfoile Park

Mr. E Humphreys gave a presentation on the proposed works for 10 units at Ballinfoile Park, which would consist of 6x 2 bed wheelchair accessible units with 4x 1 bed first floor apartments.

The following queries were raised and responded to as follows:

- Why were the Councillors only made aware of this project after the fact. Why was a meeting scheduled with the public and leaflets distributed without the Councillors being informed – This was a genuine miscommunication, and apologies were issued.
- When will the works commence and how long will this take – the works must commence before December 2024, and it will consist of 12 month construction period once on site.
- How was planning granted without the input of Councillors – it goes through the 179a process.
- Are the units intended for Residents already living in the area or new Residents – Both, there are currently no vacant units in this area and the needs of the elderly need to be met.

- Are other areas being considered for similar developments – not at the moment.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the communication of the project, the area being used as a rat run and the loss of green space in the area.

1. Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd November, 2023

The Minutes of the Meeting of 23rd November were proposed by Cllr. T. O’Flaherty and seconded by Cllr. D. Lyons and agreed by all.

2. Matters Arising

The following queries were raised by the members:

- An update on void properties was requested.
- An update on was requested on the Clybaun Scheme – 61 units, 30 Social and 31 Affordable units are progressing.
- What is the update for the Scheme beside the John Paul Centre – An EOI for design will be publishing in the coming weeks.

3. TAP Year 4 Progress Report

A discussion began on the above Agenda item however it was discovered the meeting no longer had a sufficient quorum.

The meeting was suspended at 10.55am due to an insufficient quorum, it was advised the meeting would be reconvened as soon as possible.