

**Draft Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council
held on Friday 31 May 2024,
at 4pm in the Hardiman Hotel, Eyre Square, Galway.**

Presiding: Cllr Eddie Hoare, Mayor of the City of Galway

Present: Councillors: I. Byrne, A. Cheevers, C. Connolly, M.J. Crowe, M. Cubbard, F. Fahy, C. Higgins, P. Keane, N. Larkin, D. Lyons, N. McNelis, M. O'Connor, T O' Flaherty

In Attendance: Mr L. Cleary, Chief Executive
Ms P. Philbin, Director of Services
Ms E. Fanning, Director of Services
Mr D. Pender Director of Services
Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator
Ms M. McCarthy, Clerical Officer
Mr J. Hannon, Clerical Officer

Apologies Councillors: J. Connolly, A. Curran, D. McDonnell, N. Murphy

The Mayoral Procession entered the room.

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.

Proposed By: Mayor E. Hoare Seconded By: Deputy Mayor D. Lyons

To suspend Standing Order no. 22 to allow for audio/visual recordings.

This was agreed.

Mayor Eddie Hoare welcomed Keith Finnegan and his family to the Special meeting. outlined how he was delighted to propose the motion to honour him. He added that this is the highest honour Galway City Council can bestow on anyone. Mayor Hoare indicated that the honour was richly deserved in recognition of being the voice of morning radio in Galway for the last 30 years his significant contributions to Irish journalist, and broadcasting and for this hard work as a proud ambassador for Galway nationally and internationally.

Mayor Eddie Hoare gave an address about Keith Finnegan's work in broadcasting and wider work with charities.

Keith Finnegan responded and thanked the Mayor, Councillors and the Chief Executive for this great honour and to the staff of the Council for organising the magical event which he is honoured to receive. He acknowledged his wife Joan and children Katie and Aidan and his extended family and friends.

Keith Finnegan signed the Scroll of Honour and therefore accepted the Freedom of the City.

Galway City Councillors signed the Scroll book.

Mayor Eddie Hoare acknowledged the presence of former recipients of the Freedom of the City Mary Bennet and John Kileen and former Mayors.

The meeting concluded at 16.40pm.