

**Adopted Minutes of the Galway City Council East Area Committee
Held at 3.00pm on Thursday 29 January 2026
in the Council Chamber, Galway City Council and online.**

Presiding: Cllr. D. McDonnell

Present: Cllrs. A. Burke, T O’Flaherty, A. Cheevers, H. Ogbu (online) S Forde

Executive: Ms. O. Meaney (EE), Mr. P. Connolly (SEE),
Mr. F. McEvoy (SEE), Ms. M. Duddy (AO), Mr. M. Coleman (SSO),
Ms. A. Rohan (SEO), Mr. M. Cormican (SE), Ms. S. Carroll (SEO),
Ms. L. Gaffney, Mr. D. Healy, Mr. J. Russell, Mr. J. Callan, Mr. B. Daly, Ms. H. Martyn, Mr. Cyril Mitchell, K.McGlynn, Mrs. S. Connolly

Apologies: None

Agenda Item		Discussion	Action
1.	Disclosure of Conflict of Interest (Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended.	None	
2.	Draft Minutes of meeting held on 19 November 2025.	The Draft Minutes were Proposed by Cllr. T. O’Flaherty and Seconded by Cllr. S. Forde and agreed.	Minutes agreed and adopted.
3.	Matters arising.	Cllr. T O Flaherty requested revision on comments made in previous meeting. Cllr. T. O’Flaherty had stated a ‘few years’ and not ‘20 years’ be placed on record in relation to junction at Thermo King.	

	Cllr. T. O'Flaherty wished to thank Cyril Mitchell regarding the recent repair of potholes which took place recently. She also wished to state that there was a need for Renmore Avenue to be resurfaced. Cllr. S Forde wished to get an update regarding the junction located adjacent to Thermo King. He also wished to get the numbers of vehicles which used the park and ride which was located at ATU Dublin Road over the Christmas period. Cllr. D. McDonnell also expressed his frustration regarding the junction located adjacent to Thermo King and queried if the timing of the lights could be improved by adding a few seconds to the timing limits. Cllr. A. Cheevers wished to query the safety measures regarding the entrance at Merlin Park Hospital and stated that signage was needed to be implemented. Cllr. T. O Flaherty wished to have the maintenance issues regarding Walter Macken flats kept on the Agenda. Mr. F. McEvoy SSE responded to queries regarding the resurfacing of Murrough Avenue and the numbers for the park and ride. Mr. C. Mitchell SSE responded to the Cllr. S. Forde's query regarding the lights at the junction of Thermo King. Mr. K. McGlynn SSE also responded to Cllr. S. Forde's query and highlighted that extra time leads could lead to safety concerns and that there wasn't a lot of road space to work with.	F. McEvoy will revert on park and ride usage Keep on Agenda
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		Cllr. A. Cheevers stated that the issue was ongoing for a long time and stated that sometimes motorists have no choice but to break a red light if turning right from the Thermo King side. Ms. S. Carroll agreed that the issue regarding the Walter Macken flats could be kept as an Agenda item for the next meeting of the East Area Committee Meeting. Cllr. T. O’Flaherty stated that approximately €10,000 had been spend on the last clean and it showed no value for money. She suggested if maintenance free cladding could be installed.	
4.	Local Improvement Scheme.	Mr. F. McEvoy SSE wished to remind Councillors that application forms had been sent to each Councillor and that there was a max of 3 projects for allocation per Councillor.	
5.	Items/Questions & Updates by Directorate:		
Project Development:			

(a).	What road projects are on the work sheet in the east ward for 2026.	Chair Cllr. D. McDonnell gave suggestions on the way the LPT money could be used for projects in the East Ward area for the next 4 years. The suggestions were proposed by Chair Cllr. D. McDonnell and seconded by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty. The suggestions were agreed by all Councillors present at meeting. Cllr. S. Forde wished to enquire if the works at St. James Road was part of an Active Travel Scheme. Cllr. T. O'Flaherty further queried if Galway City Council would more budget for this project. Mr. F. McEvoy responded that it was a query for Operational Development Department. He welcomed suggestions from Councillors for future projects. He further stated that there was some resource money available for the works in St. James Road and that further money could be added if needed.	Agreed and Adopted
(b)	Please give us an update on the Ballybane - Castlepark active travel scheme and where is the project currently.	L. Gaffney gave update, stating that 84% of the work was completed. Cllr. S. Forde wished to query the cost of the project and wished to enquire the initial cost of the project. He further wished to query the placing of blue markers in the community, stating that the present positioning was not acceptable. He further stated that there was no consultation with residents located in the St. James Road and Walter Macken Road areas regarding same. Cllr. A. Burke requested if staff from the Active Travel Department could attend the junction located beside Ballybane Church as the footpaths are at different heights and queried as to why the requirement in height difference. Cllr. A. Cheevers stated that he had met with a frustrated constituent regarding issues with Active Travel. He requested that Mr. Leonard Cleary CE and Mr. Derek Pender DOS to go the Ballybane Road area and walk the area.	Meeting required

(c) (d)	Please furnish us with information and details of the Monivea Road active travel scheme. It's either yes or no if this project has a bus priority lane. I request that VR3D (3d viewing of projects for future active travel projects in real time) is a topic for active travel discussions regarding future projects like the	Cllr. H. Ogbu queried if the layout was a national design and if so, local issues need to be addressed. She stated that every locality is different and welcomed the potential site visit. Cllr. Declan McDonnell queried the timeline of the project and wished to know when it is due to be completed. Ms. L. Gaffney responded to Councillors queries; it was requested that a report would be circulated to elected members. Cllr. S. Forde queried if there was money allocated to this fund. Cllr. S. Forde further queried the outline of the roadway going from Ballybane junction to the entrance of the Clayton Hotel. Cllr. S. Forde queried if the project could be done without the priority bus lane. Ms. L. Gaffney replied stating that once the preliminary design is completed, a Part 8 would be drawn up and stated that input from Councillors would be welcomed. Ms. L. Gaffney confirmed that a priority bus lane was not included within the design, as the project is progression without CPO to reduce impact to residents and there is not available road width for the bus lane. Chair Cllr. D. McDonnell queried if a map containing the finer details of the project would be available at the next meeting of the East Area Committee. Mr. D. Pender DOS stated that it would be a matter to be discussed at a future meeting. He further stated that details regarding the project were outlined and will be outlined in planning packs circulated to Councillors. Cllr. D. McDonnell stated that this topic had been addressed earlier in the meeting.	Laura Gaffney to revert Laura Gaffney – Request to circulate report
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	Monivea Road and Dublin Road bus projects.		
Operational Development			
(a)	Can we please have some members of the environmental team to attend this meeting to discuss illegal dumping in Ballybane.	Cllr. S. Forde referred to the latest IBAL survey and stated that he appreciated the work of the team on the ground. Mr. P. Connolly SEE thanked Cllr. S. Forde for his comments and stated that the waste enforcement team was continuously growing and that there is a panel currently in place for another waste enforcement team. He further stated that the team were very disappointed with the results. He stressed that there was a big issue with the dumping of mattresses and almost on a daily basis. Cllr. D. McDonnell stated that prevention is key. Cllr. A. Cheevers stated that he appreciated the work of the team and local community. He queried if the Environment team could do house to house checks to see if households had a refuse contract in place. D. Walsh Waste Enforcement Officer responded to issues raised. He stated that supporting Tidy Towns was important. He added that Tipperary County Council had recently brought tenants to court regarding noncompliance with waste collection. He further added that there an upcoming meeting with the Gardaí and it was hoped that a workshop could take place before the March meeting of the East Area Committee Meeting with Councillors and shareholders to devise a plan for the Ballybane area.	

(b)	Streetlights- there are many streetlights out across Renmore- they are highlighted on their (Electric Skyline) system (for months) as need fixing but they haven't been fixed.	Cllr. T. O'Flaherty stated that she had received correspondence from a resident in Renmore regarding the lack of correspondence from Electric Skyline regarding out of use streetlights in their area.	
(c)	Potholes- There are numerous potholes appearing throughout Renmore located on several roads.	Cllr. T. O'Flaherty stated that she wished for the Roads Department to visit the Murrough Avenue area of Renmore and investigate the roadway.	
(d)	I wish to request that the ongoing rat-run traffic issues affecting Renmore be placed on the agenda for the upcoming East Area Committee meeting. This matter continues to	Cllr. H. Ogbu wished for this item to be kept on the Agenda for the next meeting. She stated that progress had been made regarding a meeting which had taken place with residents and stressed that it was an ongoing issue. She queried if she could receive some feedback before the next meeting.	

	be a significant concern for residents, particularly in relation to road safety, traffic volumes, and quality of life in the area.		
Social Development No items submitted.			
Urban Development No items submitted.			
Corporate Development No items submitted.			
A.O.B It was raised by Cllr. T. O’Flaherty if the clarification of the owners of the former Great Southern hotel be placed on the next Agenda. Cllr. T. O’Flaherty stated that on Ballyloughane Road at Gaelscoil Dara the Renmore Residents Association requested for safety purposed, the introduction of a guardrail similar to at Scoil Caitriona. Cllr. A. Cheevers raised the same. Ms. L Gaffney SE stated that she would relay the request for railing to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project manager and informed Councillors that the tender package for the SRTS had been issued. She asked Cllr. T. O’Flaherty to place her request in writing. Cllr. S. Forde queried if there was an agreement in place for St. James and could clubs on the east side of the city be prioritized. A Happy Birthday was wished to Cllr. A. Cheevers.			
Meeting Ended: The meeting concluded at 4.44 p.m. Next Meeting: The next East Area Committee meeting is scheduled for 25 March 2026 at 2.30pm			