

**Adopted Minutes of the Galway City Council East Area Committee
held at 10a.m. Friday 29 May 2026
in the Council Chamber, Galway City Council and online.**

Presiding: Cllr. D. McDonnell.

Present: Cllr. A. Cheevers, Cllr. T. O'Flaherty, Online: Cllr. H. Ogbu, Cllr. S. Forde.

Executive: Ms. S. Carroll, A/DoS Social Development, Ms. L. Gaffney, Mr. F. McEvoy, Mr. M. Toher, Mr. P. Connolly, Mr. P. Mac Mr. P. Mac Giolla Bhríde, Ms. M. Duddy, Ms. M. McCarthy. Online: Ms. S. Connolly, Ms. A. Rohan, Ms. H. Martyn.

Apologies: Cllr. A. Burke.

Agenda Item		Discussion	Action
	Disclosure of Conflict of Interest (Section 177 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended).	None	
1.	Draft Minutes of meeting held on 1 April 2026.	The Draft Minutes were Proposed by Cllr. T. O'Flaherty and Seconded by Cllr. A. Cheevers and agreed.	Minutes agreed and adopted.
2.	Matters arising.	Cllr. S. Forde commented on the date changing for the meeting, Cllr. D. McDonnell explained the difficulty with conflicts in diaries. Cllr. T. O'Flaherty acknowledged the work undertaken at the Walter Macken Flats. In relation to the footpath on Connolly Avenue and parking matters raised by Cllr. D. McDonnell and Cllr. T. O'Flaherty it was agreed to arrange a site visit with Mr. F. McEvoy. Mr. McEvoy responded to queries in relation to road closures with local access arrangements for works. Cllr. S. Forde reported an issue with manhole cover It was noted planned resurfacing works at Renmore Road will resolve this.	Fran McEvoy to organise site visit

		Cllr. H. Ogbu expressed concerns raised by residents and businesses regarding public lighting and safety along Riverside connectivity to Terryland Industrial Estate and requested response to previous emails issued on this matter. Discussion ensued regarding land ownership, Mr. P. Mac Giolla Bhríde agreed to investigate and issue response.	P. Mac Ghiolla Bhríde to investigate and issue response.
3.	Local Improvement Scheme.	Mr. F. McEvoy provided an update on Local Improvement Schemes (LIS), outlining ongoing and planned works such as footpath restoration, green space upgrades, drainage, and scheduled roadworks. Queries were raised regarding outstanding LIS projects and Councillors requested an update to determine if funding needs to be reallocated. Cllr. H. Ogbu requested an update on two outstanding LIS projects. Mr. P. Connolly relayed confirmation that LIS funding can be allocated to environmental projects subject to agreement. Mr. Connolly advised at the next Plenary meeting the Litter Management Plan will be presented to Councillors. A full survey of all bins will be conducted, and a full audit will determine if additional bins are required. Cllr. H. Ogbu highlighted no bins in specific park area and stated that provision of bins should not be delayed pending the ongoing review. Mr. P. Connolly recommended to contact the Parks Department. Cllr. T. O'Flaherty asked regarding Scoil Dara LIS, reallocate outstanding funding U. Finn allowed to put money to fund waterstation from LIS money.	O. Meaney to follow up on this.

4.	Masterplans Update.	Ms. Sharon Connolly provided an update on the Masterplans. Cllr. T. O'Flaherty requested notification of dates for consultation in advance. Cllr. S. Forde expressed concern that the Masterplans, originally expected to positively transform the community, have instead led to unease and division among residents and sports clubs. Issues raised included funding uncertainty, proximity of proposed walkways to homes, and concerns that plans may be ambitious. Cllr. A. Cheevers expressed support for positive community development and improved recreational amenities however highlighted significant concerns regarding the Masterplan such as potential 2G pitch which may not meet the needs of all sports groups. Cllr. S. Forde noted that some clubs are willing to make financial contributions to support project delivery and should be included in progressing the development. Cllr. T. O'Flaherty suggested for officials of the councils to hold a meeting with MKO and Councillors to discuss plans. Ms. S. Connolly responded by highlighting that the Masterplans were designed for entire community and to accommodate as much sports as possible. She informed of engagement with various groups and taken approach to utilise the multi use games area for the community. All feedback has been considered for the overall Masterplan and provided details of other plans for playground etc. which are to proceed with immaterial of the Masterplan. It was agreed to meet with Councillors to inform or consult on feedback.	

5.	Speed Limit Review.	Mr. M. Toher delivered a presentation on Phase 2 of the Speed Limit Bye Laws. It is intended to bring this matter to the June Plenary Meeting to seek approval to proceed to public consultation. The key completion date is 30 October 2026. New road markings and signage to be in place by 31 March 2027. Cllr. D. McDonnell and Cllr. T. O’Flaherty discussed reduced speed limits, highlighting concerns regarding enforcement and noted that additional traffic calming measures may be required to reduce speeds. Mr. McEvoy advised that the effect of the 2023 measures varies depending on road layout and suitability of 30 km/h limits are based on road characteristics.	
7.	Items/Questions & Updates by Directorate:		
	Project Development:		
(a).	No items submitted.	No matters were raised.	
	Operational Development		
(a)	To seek clarification on whether Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) projects include environmental works (referred from previous meeting).	This matter was dealt with under LIS update.	
(b)	To confirm whether a junction audit has been carried out for Ballybane and Castle Park Road and, if so, when it was completed and whether a copy can be provided; if not, to	Cllr. S. Forde queried junction design and safety audits. Ms. Gaffney responded that the design has complied with National policy and national guidelines and noted vulnerable road users given priority. Design have been audited at pre-planning, detailed design and once junction are operational audit will be conducted. Ms. Gaffney committed to issue a copy of the audit.	

	indicate when such an audit is proposed.	Cllr. S. Forde previously told no changes to any plans what exists as what was currently in place was applied for planning, what we see what we got was applied at planning – no changed to be made. In last few weeks changes made to various junctions, what is the reason for these changes, was it representations, example Walter Macken road not fit for purpose and few weeks later junction changed. Was there a separate audit to made these changes. The changes are welcome, told one thing and see other things happening differently. Ms. Gaffney confirmed one junction slightly altered at Walter Macken road to facilitate turning movements and committed to revert with update from resident engineer on junctions and layout changes.	
(c)	To seek an update on the current estimated cost of the proposed public toilets at Ballyloughane (referred from previous meeting).	Mr. P. Connolly informed of costs for APC unit, consultant design and planned civils works expected on site within 3 months. Cllr. T. O’Flaherty commend work from allocations noted saving for opening/closing, have multiple use with defibrillator and operation costs of septic tank maintenance eliminated.	
	NOM 20/2026 – Submitted by Cllr. A. Burke I propose that the Galway City Council look at conducting a Full Survey of Castlegar Village to look at a ban on HGV's through the village and also look at the resurfacing required throughout the village.		Agreed to bring forward for next meeting
Social Development			
(a)	No items submitted		

Any Other Business:

Cllr. A. Cheever acknowledged award received for Doughiska Skate Park Silver which will host major competition on June 26 for Irish Skateboard Association. Recognise work by Council and allocation funding investment.

Cllr. T. O'Flaherty proposed that recognition and best wishes from the East Area Committee be extended to Mr. Pat McPhilbin for his 37 years of service and commended his significant contribution. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. D. McDonnell.

Cllr. T. O'Flaherty and Cllr. S. Forde raised query regarding public access to open the public running track at O'Sullivan Park Mervue and issue with booking system 24Hours before use. Ms. S. Connolly advised that new software has been implemented and outlined plans to introduce athletic facilities to increase usability of the space. She also committed to providing a response to the queries raised.

Cllr. S. Connolly agreed to provide an update to Cllr. S. Forde on the Dublin Road Cemetery.

Cllr. S. Forde queried if the boat located beside the Huntsman has permission to be located there. Mr. Mac Giolla Bhríde will investigate and respond to this query.

Ms. S. Carroll responded to a query from Cllr. D. McDonnell regarding disabled grants for older persons.

Meeting Ended: The meeting concluded at 11.45 a.m.

Next Meeting: The next East Area Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 15 July 2026