

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL MHANTAIN

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 15th JUNE, 2015 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS,
WICKLOW AT 2.00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLOR C. FOX, CATHAOIRLEACH, COUNCILLORS T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, J. BRADY, P. CASEY, T. CULLEN, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, N. LAWLESS, S. MATTHEWS, M. MCDONALD, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, D. NOLAN, O. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, B. THORNHILL, E. TIMMINS, P. VANCE, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.

APOLOGIES:

CLLR. J. SNELL AND J. WHITMORE.

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MR. B. DOYLE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. S. QUIRKE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. T. MURPHY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. L. LYNCH, HEAD OF FINANCE
MR. L. FITZPATRICK, HEAD OF IS
MR. M. GEANEY, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. T. O'BRIEN, A/SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MR. D. MURNANE, A/SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. S. WALSH, A/SENIOR PLANNER
MS. H. PURCELL, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Feile na Gael

Cllr .P. Doran highlighted the holding of the Feile in Counties Wicklow, Wexford and Carlow over the weekend and that he had received a request from the Feile Board for a funding contribution. Following a discussion on the matter, wherein the elected members expressed broad support for the initiative, it was proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. I. Winters and agreed to refer the matter to the protocol committee for consideration with a view to identifying funds through the elected members' training budget.

ITEM NO: 1

Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. C. Fox advised that it had been an honour, and a privilege, to have served as Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council for the last 12 months and that he had enjoyed immensely the experience of travelling throughout the County meeting wonderful organisations and communities which he said kept the fabric of the county together. He expressed his sincere gratitude to the elected members and entire staff of Wicklow County Council for the professionalism and support shown to him during his term in office. He referred to the changes which had taken place over the period, particularly the abolishment of the town councils and the introduction of new ways to do business which he said presented challenges. In conclusion he pledged his support to the incoming Cathaoirleach wishing him/her the very best of good wishes during the term of office.

The elected members collectively paid tribute to Cllr Christopher Fox for the manner in which he discharged his duties as Cathaoirleach and wished him well for the future. The

Chief Executive, on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff of Wicklow County Council congratulated the Cathaoirleach on a very successful year and complimented him on the manner in which he dealt with the broad range of reform processes and for his contribution to the Corporate Policy Group. He wished him well in the rest of his term as an elected member of Wicklow County Council.

Cllr. C. Fox called for nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach for the forthcoming year.

Cllr. J. Brady proposed Cllr. N. Lawless as Cathaoirleach. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. M. McDonald.

Cllr. T. Fortune proposed Cllr. S. Matthews as Cathaoirleach. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh.

Cllr. I. Winters proposed Cllr. J. Ryan as Cathaoirleach. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh.

Cllr. C. Fox advised the elected members that a vote would be taken and requested each elected member to call out the name of the Councillor they were voting for

Following a roll call, Cllr J. Ryan was elected Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council by a margin of: 19 votes for Cllr. J. Ryan, 7 votes for Cllr. N. Lawless and 3 votes for Cllr. S. Matthews viz:

FOR CLLR. J. RYAN: CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, P. CASEY, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, P. FITZGERALD, C. FOX, P. KENNEDY, G. McLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, D. NOLAN, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, E. TIMMINS, P. VANCE, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS. (19)

FOR CLLR. N. LAWLESS: CLLRS. J. BEHAN, J. BRADY, T. CULLEN, N. LAWLESS, M. McDONALD, O. O'BRIEN AND G. O'NEILL (7)

FOR CLLR. S. MATTHEWS: CLLRS. T. FORTUNE, P. KAVANAGH AND S. MATTHEWS (3)

NOT PRESENT: CLLRS. J. SNELL AND J. WHITMORE (2)

ABSTAINING: CLLR. B. THORNHILL (1)

Cllr. J. Ryan accordingly took the Chair. Before calling for nominations for Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr. J. Ryan thanked his party colleagues for proposing him for the position of Cathaoirleach and for the support of the elected members. He paid tribute to the outgoing Cathaoirleach and commended him for the work he had carried out for County Wicklow during his term in office. He proposed that Cllr. C. Fox remain as a member of the CPG as former Cathaoirleach and having regard to his broad knowledge on a range of issues. This was agreed.

The Cathaoirleach outlined his plans for the year ahead around the following areas:-

- Improved service delivery
- Higher level of engagement and communication between the business community and the community in general
- Wicklow County Council should aspire to be the best Council in Ireland
- The holding of a workshop to agree and set priorities for the forthcoming four year period
- Presentation by SPC Chairs and Directors at monthly Council meetings covering the work of the SPCs.
- Continuation of budget workshops in the interest of openness and transparency

- Implementation of objectives identified within the CWETT and the preparation of the Local Economic Community Plan.
- Support and develop local business and attract foreign direct investment
- Creation of a vibrant film cluster in County Wicklow.
- Dealing with the housing crisis
- Securing funding
- Dealing with the traffic issues on the N11/M50 and the N81

The elected members joined together in congratulating Councillor J. Ryan on his election. The Chief Executive congratulated the Cathaoirleach and assured him of the support of the staff of the Council. He referred to the drive and enthusiasm within the Council in moving forward and particular in relation to the new roles in the alignment of community and local government and economic development.

ITEM NO: 2

Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach called for nominations for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. P. Vance proposed Cllr. P. Fitzgerald. This was seconded by Cllr. P. Doran.

Cllr. N. Lawless proposed Cllr. M. McDonald. This was seconded by Cllr. G. O'Neill.

Cllr. T. Fortune proposed Cllr. B. Thornhill as Leas Cathaoirleach. This was seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh.

The Cathaoirleach advised the members that a vote would be taken and requested each elected member to call out the name of the person they were voting for.

Following a roll call, Cllr P. Fitzgerald was elected as Leas Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council by a margin of: 19 votes for Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, 6 votes for Cllr. M. McDonald and 3 votes for Cllr. B. Thornhill viz:

FOR CLLR. P. FITZGERALD: CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, P. CASEY, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, P. FITZGERALD, C. FOX, P. KENNEDY, G. McLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, D. NOLAN, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, E. TIMMINS, P. VANCE, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS. (19)

FOR CLLR. M. McDONALD: CLLRS. J. BEHAN, J. BRADY, N. LAWLESS, M. McDONALD, O. O'BRIEN AND G. O'NEILL (6)

FOR CLLR. B. THORNHILL: CLLRS. T. FORTUNE, P. KAVANAGH AND B. THORNHILL (3)

NOT PRESENT: CLLRS. T. CULLEN, S. MATTHEWS J. SNELL AND J. WHITMORE (4)

The elected members collectively paid tribute to Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and wished him well in his role as Leas Cathaoirleach over the coming year. The Chief Executive joined with the elected members in congratulating Cllr. P. Fitzgerald advising him of his support and the support of the staff of the Council over the coming year.

ITEM NO: 3

To Agree Schedule of Ordinary/Special Meetings for the coming year

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. P. Casey and agreed that the schedule of meetings for 2015/2016 as circulated be adopted.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**Cllr. J. Ryan,
Cathaoirleach**

**Ms. L. Gallagher
Senior Executive Officer,
Enterprise & Corporate Services**

Date: _____