



**Wicklow County Council
Chomhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin**

ARKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th JUNE 2017

Present: Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Tommy Annesley
Cllr. Sylvester Bourke
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Miriam Murphy
Cllr. Mary McDonald

Officials Present: Mr. Helena Dennehy, A/District Manager
Ms. Linda McDonald, District Administrator
Mr. Jack Kelly, District Engineer
Ms. Sinéad Boddy, Assistant Staff Officer

Cllr Kennedy welcomed Helena Dennehy A/District Manager to the meeting and passed on get well wishes to Michael Geaney DM.

Cllr Kennedy raised the issue of The Birches housing estate in Rathdrum being taken in charge by WCC at the plenary session on Monday and the land then put up for sale by the receivers of the development company. The site includes the green area in front of the existing 11 houses and ownership is still registered to the developer.

Ms McDonald confirmed that the green area is a designated open space although not owned by Wicklow County Council and cannot be developed. There is a duty of care on any agent to notify any prospective buyer that it is a designated open space. Cllr Fitzgerald also confirmed that it is an open space and could not be developed for housing and noted that it is for the use by the residents of the estate. Cllr Kennedy that the property was withdrawn from an upcoming auction.

Cllr Kennedy thanked everyone for their continued support throughout the year and thanked Cllr Fitzgerald as WCC Cathaoirleach acknowledging the space given to do

the job of Cathaoirleach for the District. Cllr Kennedy gave a brief review of the progress made on a number of projects and events in the district and the two that stood out for him are the pedestrian crossing at Aughrim School and the footpath from Rathdrum to Avondale. On a sad note he wished his parents were alive to see his achievements and expressed thanks to his wife Helena for her support throughout the year.

Cllr Kennedy asked that all remember the people who died throughout the year in tragic circumstances in the District.

Cllr Kennedy expressed his thanks to all the AMD staff and the work and effort they put in on a daily basis. He said that we need to continue to work as a team and that it is not all about politics but now about Arklow Municipal District. He thanked everyone for the honour of holding the office of Cathaoirleach.

Cllr Fitzgerald congratulated Cllr Kennedy on a great year and building a better image for Arklow town and representing the District with pride and being totally committed to every task.

Cllr Annesley also congratulated Cllr Kennedy and said he would be a hard act to follow. He gave 100% to all the initiatives around the district throughout the year.

Cllr Bourke agreed that the bar has been set very high and they will recall the Kennedy era in the local annals.

Cllr Murphy said she had worked with Cllr Kennedy for many years and agreed that the networking achieved throughout the year was great especially holding the 2 meetings outside of the Arklow Chamber which was great for the local people. The high praise is well deserved and there is still a lot to be done but things have been very good in this term. We need to keep up the fight for funding and making contacts is very important – see you in the Dáil!

Cllr McDonald said that no matter what, Cllr Kennedy would always be on the other end of the phone and we all need to keep communicating.

Item 1: Election of Cathaoirleach.

Election of Cllr Annesley as Cathaoirleach was proposed by Sylvester Bourke and seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald.

Item 2: Election of Leas Cathaoirleach.

Election Cllr Murphy as Leas Cathaoirleach was proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald and seconded by Cllr Kennedy

Item 3: To agree Schedule of Ordinary Meetings for the coming year.

The schedule of meeting for the coming year was proposed by Cllr Annesley and seconded by Cllr Murphy

Item 4: Any other business.

No other business was discussed.

Minutes confirmed at the Annual Arklow Municipal District Council Meeting held on Wednesday the 12th July 2017.

Signed: *Cllr Tommy Annesley, Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District.*

Signed: *Ms. Linda McDonald, Arklow Municipal District Administrator*