

<p style="text-align: center;">Edenderry Town Council Comhairle Bhaile Édan Doire</p>

**MINUTES OF THE FINAL MONTHLY MEETING OF
EDENDERRY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 14TH OF MAY 2014
IN THE TOWN HALL, EDENDERRY AT 6.30PM**

Present: Cathaoirleach Cllr. Finian O'Neill, Cllr Patricia Brady, Cllr. Fergus Mc Donnell, Cllr. Liam Hogan, , Cllr. Jim Murrin, Cllr. John Foley, Cllr. Noel Cribbin, Cllr. Declan Leddin, & Cllr Mary Breen

In attendance: Declan Conlon, Area Manager/Head of Finance and Therese O'Meara, Acting Town Clerk

1. Confirmation of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr Hogan and seconded by Cllr Breen, the minutes of the April meeting were adopted.

The meeting was adjourned for a few minutes to allow an official photograph be taken.

When the meeting resumed the Cathaoirleach, Cllr Finian O'Neill thanked the members for the respect shown to him during his time as Cathaoirleach. He stated that the Council had a lot to be proud of, as they had achieved a lot in the last few years.

2. R402 – Edenderry to Enfield Road;

Cllr Hogan thanked Kildare County Council for their response to his concerned raised at the April meeting in relation to the condition of the road at Kilshinroe just outside the new R402.

3. Offalia House

Nothing to report

4. 24 hr ambulance service

Nothing to report

5. New Schools for Edenderry

Nothing to report

6. Donation Request

A request had come before the Council for Dr Ciaran Reilly, local historian. He is currently putting together a book called “Emigrant stories from Edenderry and its surrounding”. He is seeking sponsorship towards the overall cost of publication and had included a proposed contents for the book.

Note: Dr Ciaran Reilly gave a presentation at the event to mark the end of Edenderry Town Council on the 2nd of May.

The Councilors agreed that Dr Ciaran Reilly has completed some great work in particular a book about the Famine in Ireland and a recent book to mark 100 years of St Mary’s Church in Edenderry. The members were also very impressed with the presentation given to them on the 2nd of May.

On the proposal of Cllr. Fergus Mc Donnell and seconded by Cllr Finian O’Neill it was agreed to give a donation of €500 to Dr Ciaran Reilly.

Cllr O’Neill advised the members that Dr Reilly has it in mind to compile a book about Edenderry Town Council also.

7. Notice of Motions;

Clones Town Council calls n the government to lift the embargo on recruitment of Council staff. On the proposed of Cllr Finian O’Neill and seconded by Cllr Fergus Mc Donnell it was agreed to support this motion.

Clones Town Council calls on the Department of Environment to scrap the gateway schemes.
This motion was recorded as read.

Clonakilty Town Council in relation to the AMAI this motion was recorded as read.

8. Issues from Joint Policing Committee

Cllr Noel Cribbin advised the members about the CCTV proposals and advised that an application is required to go before the Advisory Committee of Gardai in relation to same. The Town Clerk advised the members that it is necessary for a letter of approval to form part of this application. She advised that she had one drafted setting out the history of the request. On the proposal of Cllr Finian O'Neill and seconded by Cllr Fergus Mc Donnell it was agreed that a letter of approval be issued by the Town Clerk and signed by the Cathaoirleach to form part of this application.

Cllr Foley queried if this letter will stand as the Town Council will be gone by the end of month. The Town Clerk advised that this is part of the regulation as it stands however she assumed that the Advisory Committee would revert back to the Town Clerk with a request for a letter of approval from the Municipal District of Edenderry if required.

Cllr O'Neill queried if Planning Permission was required for same. The Town Clerk advised that she will talk to the Area Planner regarding same.

Cllr Leddin queried if the cameras will go on ESB poles and in that regard would there be a need for approval from ESB. The Town Clerk advised that the cameras will be erected on their own poles.

Cllr O'Neill queried who the Data Controller would be and the Town Clerk advised that the Superintendent has agreed to be Data Controller and that the system will be installed in the

Garda Station. In this regard the Superintendent will provide a letter to this effect to support the application.

9. Correspondence;

Letter to Bus Éireann regarding Bus route from Edenderry

Cllr. Hogan advised those present that Bus Éireann have been very vague as have the National Transportation Authority (NTA) in relation to replying to various queries raised by the members in regard to bus routes. He advised those present that it would now appear that the NTA are trying to privatise some of the bus routes.

Cllr Leddin advised the members that he had been approached by a bus driver employed by Bus Éireann who is deeply concerned about his future. Cllr Leddin has made contact with various different people in relation to same. He advised that 10% of the existing bus routes will now be withdrawn which includes the 120 service from Tullamore to Dublin including Edenderry. He advised that this would have a serious economic effect on Edenderry and the rural surrounding areas like. He expressed concern in relation to how people will get to work, hospital appointments etc. He stated that pressure needs to be put on the NTA to stop same and stated that this route could be changed rather than removed.

Cllr Cribbin stated that there is a brilliant bus service in the town and that he would not like to lose same. He said that if it is privatized then it will have a huge impact on a lot of people. He asked Cllr Hogan and Cllr Brady to use their influence with the Minister for Transport. He proposed that a strongly worded letter be sent to the NTA and to Deputy Cowen and Deputy Corcoran Kennedy.

It was proposed by Cllr Cribbin and seconded by Cllr Leddin that the Town Clerk writes a to the NTA in relation to same.

Cllr Hogan advised that there is not enough people using this services as it travels around the county and in this regard he has been looking for a direct service from Edenderry to Enfield to facilitate those travelling to and from Dublin by train.

Cllr Leddin advised that by the time the early morning service from Edenderry gets to Clane, Bus Éireann have to send out additional buses to transport those waiting to travel to Dublin.

Cllr Mc Donnell advised that there are 14 permanent staff employed by Bus Éireann who are living in the locality.

Cllr Brady advised that the early morning service goes to UCD and stated that this service can't be lost. She proposed that a deputation from the new Municipal District go to Dublin to meet the Minister in relation to same.

Cllr Foley urges those who are elected in the upcoming local elections to continue the battle for the bus service.

10. Any other Business

Cllr O'Neill read a card submitted by Ann Hanley, thanking the members for inviting her to the event to mark the end of the Town Council and extending her best wishes to all the members. She thanked them for their dedicated service to Edenderry and advised that they will be missed.

Cllr Mc Donnell advised that he predicts that the Town Councils will be reinstated in the future with improved functions and finances. He advised that the public voted at a referendum to save the Senate and he predicted that if they were given the choice to vote on the abolition of Town Council at a referendum the Town Councils would not have been abolished.

Cllr O'Neill advised that the local people will not realized the effect the Town Councils had until they are gone.

Cllr Cribbin stated that it was a sad day and that positive work was carried out by the Town Council in Edenderry.

Cllr Foley said that he looked forward to the day when the Town Council will be back. He stated that people are disillusioned. He advised that the majority of people have lost the fight and have accepted what happen over the years in this country. He suggested that after the local elections anyone who does not succeed will establish a type of forum for the town. He advised that he is proud of what the Council achieved.

Declan Conlon, Area Manager advised that he would look favorably on giving the members a room to facilitate such a meeting.

Cllr Brady thanked the Councilors and the staff particularly Sean Hutchinson and his family for their curtesy through the years.

Cllr Mc Donnell thanked his fellow elected members, the staff of Offaly County Council, the media and recalled his first meeting in a smoke filled small room in 1985 where the Town Clerk read from the only copy of minutes available. He stated that the members had worked well together and tried to get things done. He stated that they were served well by staff and management alike. He hoped that the level of connection will continue.

Cllr Brady wished Cllr Noel Bourke a speedy recovered at this time. It was agreed to send a mass bouquet to his family.

Cllr Hogan advised that he had enjoyed his 20 years in the Town Council. He said that the different personalities of the members had added to this. He believed that there had always been a common sense approach to Town Council level. He expressed his delight at that last Director of Service for Edenderry Town Council being a local man. He wished all those who are running for election well. He hoped that there would be representatives from the Town Council on the new Municipal District Council. He thanked the staff and Sean Hutchinson.

Cllr Leddin agreed with Cllr Foley proposal for a forum which he suggested cover topics such as business, schools, community services and political issues. He stated that it was a pleasure working with each member and remembered that each of them had wished him well on his first night on the Council, five years ago. He thanked the Town Clerk and Director of Service for their assistance and kindness to him.

Cllr O'Neill stated that from 1999 onwards what was achieved was unbelievable. He particularly mentioned the new R402 to Enfield, which he thanked Kildare County Council for project managing. He also thanked the staff for their help and assistance through the years.

Declan Conlon, Area Manager thanked the members on behalf of himself and the staff of Area. He stated that he believed it was important to have a group fighting for the town. He said that it was an honor to work with the members. He wished Cllr Noel Bourke a speedy recovery. He particularly thanked the Town Clerk for her work to date.

It was agreed that each member keep their name plates as a memento from the Town Council.

This concluded the business of the final meeting.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach

As this is the last meeting of the Council and therefore the minutes of this meeting cannot be adopted at a further meeting it is agreed that the Town Clerk jointly sign these minutes in order give a true account of what took place at this meeting.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Town Clerk