**MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING OF BIRR M.D. HELD ON MONDAY 13TH JANUARY, 2025 AT BIRR CIVIC OFFICES, WILMER ROAD, BIRR AT 4.45 P.M.**

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| **MEMBERS PRESENT:** | **Cllrs P Ormond, E Clendennen, J Leahy, A Hennessy – Kennedy, H Egan, S Maher,**  |
| **IN ATTENDANCE:** | **Ms A Dillon, DOS, Mr P Dermody A/SEE, Ms Eimear McGinn County Librarian OCC Library Service, Ms M Flynn AO Birr MD and Ms. D Molloy Meetings Administrator** |

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting, the Cathaoirleach welcomed Cllr Eleanor Clendennen as a new Member to the Birr MD Chamber. He also welcomed Mr Pat Dermody as Acting SEE, and Ms. Mary Flynn as the new Administrative Officer to Birr MD. He also wished former Cllr John Clendennen best of luck in his new appointment to the Dail and Mr John Mitchell on his new appointment to Tullamore MD.

1. **Adoption of Minutes of Meeting in Committee held on 11TH November, 2024**

On the proposal of Cllr Maher and seconded by Cllr Leahy the Minutes of Meeting in Committee of Birr MD on the 11th November, 2024 were adopted.

1. **Adoption of Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th November, 2024**

On the proposal of Cllr Hennessy-Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Clendennen the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Birr MD on the 11th November, 2024 were adopted.

1. **Matters arising from November meeting.**

There are no matters arising from the November meeting.

1. **Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach**

The meeting was advised that as former Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr John Clendennen had now been elected to the Dail the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach was now vacant and needs to be filled. On the nomination of Cllr Leahy and seconded by Cllr Maher, Cllr Egan was elected as Leas-Cathaoirleach.

1. **Nomination of a Representative to Board of Directors of Birr Theatre and Arts Centre**

The meeting was advised that as former Cllr John Clendennen had now been elected to the Dail and had been the Birr MD representative on the above board that a new representative would have to be appointed. On the nomination of Cllr Leahy and seconded by Cllr Egan, Cllr Eleanor Clendennen was appointed as the Birr MD representative on the Board of Directors of Birr Theatre and Arts Centre.

1. **Nomination of a Representative to the Board of Birr 20:20**

The meeting was advised that as former Cllr John Clendennen had now been elected to the Dail and had been the Birr MD representative on the above board that a new representative would have to be appointed. On the nomination of Cllr Leahy and seconded by Cllr Hennessy-Kennedy, Cllr Eleanor Clendennen was appointed as the Birr MD representative to the Board of Birr 20:20

1. **Library Services Update**

Ms Eimear McGinn, County Librarian gave an update to the Members in relation to Library Services within the MD. The Members thanked her for her very comprehensive and informative presentation and raised the following:

* The Members acknowledged the great services that the Library offer to the Community, and also commended the excellent staff in the Libraries in the MD for their exceptional delivery of services.
* The Members welcomed the open Library now available in Kilcormac.
* The Members recognised that the Library is a great space for social inclusion and enquired if any extra funding could be acquired to secure further equipment for the disability sector in Birr Library, the Members were advised that new funding streams were always being looked for.
* The DOS expressed the thanks of Management to Ms McGinn and her staff for their creativity and innovation in delivering such diverse services in the Library.
1. **Motion from Cllr Maher**

***“That Birr Municipal District formally invite Uisce Eireann to give a presentation regarding water infrastructure for the Birr area”.***

1. **Motion from Cllr Hennessy- Kennedy**

***“That the Council look to have a meeting with Irish Water, Uisce Eireann.”***

The Members discussed the Motions submitted by Cllr Maher and Cllr Hennessy-Kennedy and agreed that there is a lot of frustration in Birr, in particular in relation to ongoing problems at certain locations. The Members agreed unanimously to write to Uisce Eireann and ask them to attend a meeting to discuss their concerns. The Members also asked that this issue would be placed on the Agenda for the February Meeting of the MD.

The meeting was advised that Members had received an invitation to attend a public consultation in the coming weeks in Birr in relation to the Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region.

1. **Any Other Business**

1. The Members unanimously thanked the A/SEE and his staff for the great word that was carried out during the recent cold spell. The DOS advised that on behalf of Management she would also like to commend the staff on their great work.

2. The Members were advised that the Local Improvement Scheme would be advertised in the media in the near future and would be open for acceptance of new applications.

The Meeting then concluded.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **CATHAOIRLEACH MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

**DATE:**