

# COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UÍBH FHAILÍ

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TULLAMORE ON MONDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009 AT 2.00P.M.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. N. Bourke, (Presiding), M. Buckley, J. Butterfield, , J. Carroll, P. Clendennen, B. Cowen, D. Dolan, E. Dooley, S. Dooley, E. Fitzpatrick, J. Foley, C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, J. Leahy, T. McKeigue, T. McLoughlin, S. Moylan-Ryan, P. Ormond, D. Owens, G. Plunkett and L. Quinn

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. P. Gallagher, County Manager, Mr. M. Roche, D.O.S., Mr. D. Kirrane, D.O.S., Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., Mr. F. Heslin, D.O.S., Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F., Ms. Monica Cleary, Meetings Administrator, Mr. C. McCarthy, S.E., Mr. D. Hogan, S.E., Mr. A. Murray, S. P., Ms. A. Dillon, S.E.O., Mr. D. Mahon, S.E.O., Ms. L. O'Sullivan, S.E.P., Ms. P. Hughes, A.O., Mr. S. Corrigan, A.O., Ms. M. Flynn-Kenny, A.O., Mr. R. Bell, IS Project Leader, Ms. N. Troy, C.O.

Monica Cleary, Meetings Administrator, informed the Council that in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders it was a matter for the members to select a person to Chair the meeting. The meeting unanimously agreed that Cllr. B. Cowen would take the Chair until the election of Cathaoirleach.

**DULY ELECTED MEMBERS:** The Meetings Administrator read out the names of the persons duly elected as members of the local authority as follows:

**BIRR ELECTORAL AREA:** Peter Ormond, Fianna Fáil  
Tony McLoughlin, Non-Party  
John Carroll, Non-Party  
Percy Clendennen, Fine Gael

**EDENDERRY ELECTORAL AREA:** John Foley, Fianna Fáil  
Noel Bourke, Fianna Fáil  
Eddie Fitzpatrick, Non-Party  
Nichola Hogan, Fine Gael  
Liam Quinn, Fine Gael  
Ger Plunkett, Fianna Fáil

**FERBANE ELECTORAL AREA:** John Leahy, Non-Party  
Eamon Dooley, Fianna Fáil  
Connie Hanniffy, Fine Gael  
Sinéad Moylan-Ryan, Fianna Fáil

TULLAMORE ELECTORAL AREA: Barry Cowen, Fianna Fáil  
Tommy McKeigue, Fine Gael  
Molly Buckley, Fine Gael  
Sinéad Dooley, Fianna Fáil  
Dervill Dolan, Non-Party  
Danny Owens, Fianna Fáil  
Johnny Butterfield, Non-Party

**ELECTION OF  
CATHAOIRLEACH:**

Cllr. B. Cowen said he would like to take the opportunity to welcome the new members to the chamber and to extend his thanks to the Manager, staff, members and former members for their co-operation with him during the past year. He urged all Councillors to work together for the benefit of the County.

Cllr. Cowen invited nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. J. Foley proposed Cllr. Noel Bourke, seconded by Cllr. G. Plunkett.

Cllr. T. McKeigue proposed Cllr. Connie Hanniffy, seconded by Cllr. Molly Buckley.

There being no other nominations a ballot ensued resulting as follows:

For Cllr. Bourke:

Cllrs. N. Bourke, B. Cowen, D. Dolan, E. Dooley, S. Dooley, E. Fitzpatrick, J. Foley, T. McLoughlin, S. Moylan-Ryan, P. Ormond, D. Owens and G. Plunkett.

For Cllr. Hanniffy:

Cllrs M. Buckley, J. Butterfield, P. Clendennen, C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, T. McKeigue and L. Quinn.

Cllrs J. Carroll and J. Leahy abstained.

Cllr. B. Cowen declared Cllr. N. Bourke elected as Cathaoirleach of Offaly County Council for the following year.

Cllr. N. Bourke then took the chair, thanked his proposer and seconder and the members for his election. The Cathaoirleach congratulated all the candidates who were elected and extended his commiserations to those who had not been successful. He thanked the outgoing Cathaoirleach for his work over the past year. The Cathaoirleach acknowledged that there were difficult times ahead for the Council. The Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that with the co-operation of the members, the management and staff over the coming year he would strive to promote the interests of the Council.

**ELECTION OF LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH:**

Cllr. Bourke then invited nominations for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. B. Cowen was proposed by Cllr. D. Owens, seconded by Cllr. S. Dooley.

Cllr. J. Butterfield was proposed by Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. J. Leahy.

There being no other nominations the Cathaoirleach called for a roll call the result of which was as follows:

For Cllr. Cowen:

Cllrs. N. Bourke, B. Cowen, D. Dolan, E. Dooley, S. Dooley, E. Fitzpatrick, J. Foley, T. McLoughlin, S. Moylan-Ryan, P. Ormond, D. Owens and G. Plunkett.

For Cllr. Butterfield:

Cllrs M. Buckley, J. Butterfield, P. Clendennen, C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, J. Leahy, T. McKeigue and L. Quinn.

Cllr. J. Carroll abstained.

The Cathaoirleach then declared Cllr. B. Cowen elected as Leas-Cathaoirleach.

The County Manager joined with members in congratulating the newly elected Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach and assured them of the continued support of management and staff. He thanked the outgoing Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach for their work over the past year, and the outgoing members who had not been returned for their contribution to the Council.

**SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY MEETINGS:**

The members resolved to continue the current arrangement with ordinary meetings being held on the third Monday of every month, excluding August when no meeting would be held.

**ELECTION / APPOINTMENT / NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE FOLLOWING BODIES / COMMITTEES:**

**MIDLAND REGIONAL AUTHORITY**

Cllr. T. McKeigue informed the meeting that a group had been formed consisting of Cllrs. C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, L. Quinn and M. Buckley, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001, for the purpose of nominating Cllr. C. Hanniffy as a member of the Midland Regional Authority.

Cllr. T. McKeigue advised that Cllrs. T. McKeigue, P. Clendennen, J. Leahy and J. Butterfield had formed a group for

MIDLAND REGIONAL  
AUTHORITY (cont'd)

the purpose of nominating Cllr. J. Butterfield as a member of the Midland Regional Authority.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Moylan Ryan, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley that Cllrs. E. Dooley, G. Plunkett, P. Ormond and N. Bourke be nominated as members of the Midland Regional Authority. The proposal was agreed.

BMW REGIONAL  
ASSEMBLY

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley, Cllrs. E. Dooley and C. Hanniffy were nominated to the BMW Regional Assembly. The proposal was agreed.

EU OPERATIONAL  
COMMITTEE

Cllr. G. Plunkett was proposed for nomination to the EU Operational Committee by Cllr. P Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley. The proposal was agreed.

H.S.E. REGIONAL FORUM

Cllr. M. Buckley advised that Cllrs. T. McKeigue, N. Hogan, L. Quinn, P. Clendennen, M. Buckley, C. Hanniffy and J. Butterfield had formed a group for the purposes of nominating Cllr. T. McKeigue to the H.S.E. Regional Forum.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to nominate Cllrs. J. Foley and P. Ormond to the H.S.E. Regional Forum.

COUNTY ENTERPRISE  
BOARD

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed that Cllrs. S. Dooley, J. Foley and D. Owens would represent the Council on the County Enterprise Board.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley it was agreed that Cllr. N. Hogan would represent the Council on the County Enterprise Board.

ASSOCIATION OF  
COUNTY AND CITY  
COUNCILS

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley the members agreed to the appointment of Cllrs. B. Cowen and D. Owens to the Association of County and City Councils.

Cllr. T. McKeigue advised that a group had been formed consisting of Cllrs. M. Buckley, T. McKeigue, C. Hanniffy, P. Clendennen, L. Quinn, N. Hogan and J. Butterfield for the purpose of nominating Cllr. C. Hanniffy to the Association of County and City Councils.

LOCAL AUTHORITY  
MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley the members agreed that Cllr. N. Bourke would be appointed to the Local Authority Members Association.

IRISH PUBLIC BODIES  
MUTUAL INSURANCES  
LTD.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley the members agreed that Cllr. S. Dooley would be appointed to Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

OFFALY VOCATIONAL  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Cllr. J. Butterfield informed the meeting that Cllrs. J. Carroll, J. Leahy and J. Butterfield were forming a group for the purpose of nominating Cllr. J. Leahy to the Offaly Vocational Education Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley the members agreed to the appointment of Cllrs. P. Clendennen and L. Quinn to the Offaly Vocational Education Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. G. Plunkett the council agreed to fill the remaining positions on Co. Offaly V.E.C. as follows: Cllrs. N. Bourke, B. Cowen, E. Dooley, E. Fitzpatrick, S. Moylan-Ryan and T. McLoughlin.

BARROW DRAINAGE  
BOARD

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley it was agreed to appoint Mr. John Foran to the Barrow Drainage Board.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed that Cllrs. E. Fitzpatrick, G. Plunkett and Mr. Finian O'Neill be appointed to the Barrow Drainage Board.

PORTARLINGTON JOINT  
BURIAL BOARD

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. N. Hogan to the Portarlington Joint Burial Board.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley the members agreed to the appointment of Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Joe Enright and Mr. Jody Gunning to the Portarlington Joint Burial Board.

DUNGAR JOINT BURIAL  
BOARD

Cllr. P. Ormond's proposal, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley that the Birr Area Councillors Cllrs. J. Carroll, T. McLoughlin, P. Ormond, P. Clendennen and Mr. Aidan Larkin be nominated to the Dungar Burial Board was agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Clendennen, seconded by Cllr. P. Ormond the Council agreed to the appointment of Mr. Larry Delaney, Summerhill to the Dungar Burial Board.

OFFALY INTEGRATED  
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
COMPANY LTD.

Cllr. McKeigue advised that a group had been formed consisting of Cllrs M. Buckley, T. McKeigue, C. Hanniffy, P. Clendennen, L. Quinn, N. Hogan and J. Butterfield for the purpose of nominating Cllr. J. Butterfield to the Offaly Integrated Local Development Company Ltd.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. G. Plunkett the members agreed to the appointment of Cllrs. E. Dooley and N. Bourke to the Offaly Integrated Local Development Company Ltd.

STRATEGIC POLICY  
COMMITTEES -  
CHAIRPERSONS  
DESIGNATE

Cllr. P. Ormond proposed, seconded by Cllr. G. Plunkett, the following Chairs-designate: Cllr E. Fitzpatrick - Environment S.P.C.; Cllr T. McLoughlin - Roads S.P.C.; Cllr E. Dooley - Planning S.P.C. This was agreed by the members of the Council.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. C. Hanniffy the members agreed to the appointment of Cllr. M. Buckley as Chair-designate - Housing, Social and Cultural S.P.C.

It was agreed that a revised Draft Strategic Policy Committee Scheme would be presented to the Council at the July Monthly Meeting and that appointments to the S.P.C. would be made following adoption of the scheme.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OXMANTOWN HALL  
MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. T. McLoughlin to the Board of Directors Oxmantown Hall Management Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. C. Hanniffy it was agreed to appoint Cllr. P. Clendennen to the Board of Directors Oxmantown Hall Management Committee.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
TULLAMORE DEW  
HERITAGE CENTRE

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. P. Clendennen it was agreed to appoint Cllr. M. Buckley to the Board of Directors of Tullamore Dew Heritage Centre.

WEST OFFALY  
ENTERPRISE FUND LTD.

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Haniffy, seconded by Cllr. J. Butterfield it was agreed to appoint the Ferbane Area Councillors: Cllrs. J. Leahy, E. Dooley, C. Hanniffy and S. Moylan-Ryan to West Offaly Enterprise Fund Ltd.

NORTH OFFALY  
DEVELOPMENT FUND  
LTD.

On the proposal of Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. Liam Quinn it was agreed to appoint the Edenderry Area Councillors: Cllrs. J. Foley, N. Bourke, E. Fitzpatrick, N. Hogan, L. Quinn and G. Plunkett to North Offaly Development Fund Ltd.

RURAL WATER  
PROGRAMME  
MONITORING  
COMMITTEE

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley, Cllrs. E. Fitzpatrick and G. Plunkett were agreed as nominees to the Rural Water Programme Monitoring Committee.

Cllr. McKeigue advised that a group had been formed consisting of Cllrs. M. Buckley, T. McKeigue, C. Hanniffy, P. Clendennen, L. Quinn and N. Hogan and J. Butterfield for the purpose of nominating Cllr. L. Quinn to the Rural Water Programme Monitoring Committee.

LOCAL TRAVELLER  
ACCOMMODATION  
CONSULTATIVE  
COMMITTEE

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllrs. S. Moylan-Ryan, B. Cowen and T. McLoughlin to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Butterfield, seconded by Cllr. P. Clendennen it was agreed to appoint Cllr. J. Leahy to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. M. Buckley to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

SWIMMING POOL  
COMMITTEES: - BIRR

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint as follows:

Birr Swimming Pool Committee: Cllr. J. Carroll  
Clara Swimming Pool Committees: Cllr. B. Cowen  
Tullamore Swimming Pool Committees: Cllr. S. Dooley  
Edenderry Swimming Pool Committees: Cllr. J. Foley

SHANNON  
INTERNATIONAL RIVER  
BASIN DISTRICT  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan to the Shannon International River Basin District Advisory Council.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. C. Hanniffy to the Shannon International River Basin District Advisory Council.

SOUTH EASTERN RIVER  
BASIN DISTRICT  
ADVISORY COUNCIL

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick to the South Eastern River Basin District Advisory Council.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. J. Butterfield it was agreed to appoint Cllr. N. Hogan to the South Eastern River Basin District Advisory Council.

EASTERN RIVER BASIN  
DISTRICT ADVISORY  
COUNCIL

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. N. Bourke to the South Eastern River Basin District Advisory Council.

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. L. Quinn to the South Eastern River Basin District Advisory Council.

JOINT POLICING  
COMMITTEE

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint the following to the Joint Policing Committee:

Birr Electoral Area: Cllrs. P. Ormond and T. McLoughlin  
Edenderry Electoral Area: Cllrs. E. Fitzpatrick and G. Plunkett  
Ferbane Electoral Area: Cllrs. S. Moylan-Ryan and E. Dooley  
Tullamore Electoral Area: Cllrs. S. Dooley and D. Owens

JOINT POLICING  
COMMITTEE (cont'd)

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley it was agreed to appoint Cllr C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, P. Clendennen and M. Buckley to the Joint Policing Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Butterfield, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint J. Leahy to the Joint Policing Committee.

In responding to queries raised by the members, the County Manager advised that the Garda Act states that there is to be a Joint Policing Committee for each Local Authority Area but that the regulations provided for co-operation between them.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The County Manager advised that he is obliged to consult with the Cathaoirleach with regard to appointments to the Audit Committee. The member agreed to defer the appointments to the ordinary meeting in July.

OFFALY SPORTS  
PARTNERSHIP

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley it was agreed to appoint Cllr. D. Owens to the Offaly Sports Partnership.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Butterfield, seconded by Cllr. J. Leahy it was agreed to appoint Cllr. J. Carroll to the Offaly Sports Partnership.

OFFALY HERITAGE  
FORUM

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Ormond, seconded by Cllr. B. Cowen it was agreed to appoint Cllr. E. Dooley to the Offaly Heritage Forum.

In responding to queries raised by the members, the County Manager informed the meeting as follows:

- The Offaly Film Commission appointments would be filled once the relevant SPC is constituted.
- Appointments to Mid-Ireland Tourism and the Drugs Task Force could be considered if and when a formal request from these groups seeking nominations was received.

**APPOINTMENT OF  
NOMINATED MEMBERS  
TO WITNESS AFFIXING  
OF OFFICIAL SEAL:**

The members resolved that the Cathaoirleach or Leas-Cathaoirleach be approved for the purposes of witnessing the affixing of the official seal to documents.

**CONFIRM MEMBERSHIP  
OF AREA COMMITTEES  
OF THE COUNCIL:**

It was agreed to form Area Committees of the Council for the four Local Electoral Areas in the County, and that membership of the Area Committees would comprise of the members from the relevant Local Electoral Area plus the Cathaoirleach of the relevant Town Council (in the case of Tullamore, Edenderry and Birr) where that person is not otherwise a member.



**DATE FOR A SPECIAL  
MEETING TO CONSIDER  
THE PRE-DRAFT  
TULLAMORE TOWN &  
ENVIRONS  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
PRIOR TO PUTTING ON  
PUBLIC DISPLAY:**

Mr. D. Kirrane, D.O.S., advised that in accordance with the legislation the Draft Tullamore Town and Environs Development Plan would be put on public display on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009. It was agreed to hold a Special Meeting on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 2 p.m. to consider the draft plan, and if so required a further meeting would be held on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 2 p.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**MINUTES CONFIRMED: -**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**MEETINGS ADMINISTATOR**

**20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2009**