

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UÍBH FHAILÍ

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING
OF OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, CHARLEVILLE ROAD, TULLAMORE
ON MONDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER 2013 AT 2.00P.M.**

PRESENT:	Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan, Cathaoirleach (Presiding), Cllrs. N. Bourke, M. Buckley, J. Butterfield, J. Carroll, P. Clendennen, D. Dolan, E. Dooley, S. Dooley, C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, J. Foley, J. Leahy, T. McKeigue, T. McLoughlin, P. Ormond, D. Owens, G. Plunkett, L. Quinn and P. Rowland
APOLOGIES:	Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mr. P. Gallagher, County Manager, 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. M. Cleary, Meetings Administrator, Mr. A. Murray, S.P., Ms. C. Dempsey, A.O., Mr. B. Pey, A.O., Ms. L. Mitchell, S.E.P., Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., Ms. F. Flaherty C.O.
VOTES OF SYMPATHY:	<p>Votes of sympathy were unanimously extended to the following:-</p> <p>Julia McDermott, Ballyduff, Geashill on the death of her husband, Eddie;</p> <p>Noel Lenihan, Clonearl, Daingean on the death of his wife, Marie;</p> <p>Thomas Molloy & Family, Cappincur, Tullamore on the death of his mother, Mary Ann;</p> <p>Susan Pidgeon, Clara Rd, Tullamore on the death of her husband, Johnny;</p> <p>Tom Finn & Family, Killooley, Blueball, Tullamore on the death of his brother, Liam;</p> <p>Patrick Murphy & Family, Cully, Blueball, Tullamore on the death of his brother, Jim;</p> <p>Michael White & Family, Kyleogue, Shinrone, Birr on the death of his wife, Moira;</p> <p>Nancy Armitage, Foorbridge, Shinrone, Birr on the death of her sister, Nonie;</p> <p>Tim Nolan & Family, Deerpark, Cadamstown, Kinnitty, Birr on the death of his wife, Philomena;</p> <p>Donal Molloy, Cappincur, Tullamore on the death of his mother, Mary-Ann;</p>

<p>VOTES OF SYMPATHY: (cont'd)</p>	<p>Michael Lynam, Mucklagh, Tullamore on the death of his mother, Kathleen;</p> <p>Mary Sheridan, Gormagh, Durrow on the death of her brother, John Pidgeon;</p> <p>Fr. Shane Crombie, Parochial House, Tullamore on the death of his grandmother, Mary Crombie;</p> <p>Joe Colgan, Thomastown, Rath, Birr on the death of his brother, Patsy;</p> <p>Joe Kinsella, Coagh, Killyon, Birr on the death of his mother, Bridgit</p> <p>Tommy Bennett, Clonohill, Birr on the death of his brother, Dick;</p> <p>Mrs. Tony Murphy, Clareen, Birr on the death of her brother, Liam Finn;</p> <p>Tim Nolan & Family, Deerpark, Cadamstown, Birr on the death of his wife, Phil.</p> <p>The County Manager on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff of the Council joined with the members in these votes of sympathy.</p>
<p>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:</p>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. M. Buckley, seconded by Cllr. S. Dooley, the minutes of the October Monthly Meeting held in Áras an Chontae, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 21st October 2013 were agreed and adopted.</p>
<p>MINUTES FOR NOTING:</p>	<p>The minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 16th September 2013 were noted.</p>
<p>DRAFT DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2014-2020</p>	<p>Mr. D. Kirrane, DOS, directed the members' attention to the <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i> which was circulated with the Agenda.</p> <p>Cllr. E. Dooley declared that as an employee of Bord Na Móna and as Bord na Móna are currently developing a number of wind farms in Offaly he would be withdrawing from the meeting during the consideration of the <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i>.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Rowland declared that he is an employee of Bord Na Móna and accordingly he was withdrawing from the meeting during the consideration of the <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i>.</p> <p>Mr. D. Kirrane informed the meeting that the Planning & Economic Development SPC had, as agreed at the October Council meeting, met to reconsider the <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i>. The <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i>, as circulated, proposed to reduce Development Contributions to €4,300 per residential</p>

	<p>unit and €20 per square metre of floor area for industrial/commercial development. The Scheme proposed that Development Contributions for Wind Turbines would be levied at €10,000 per megawatt of capacity. Mr. D. Kirrane informed the meeting that the <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i>, as circulated, had the unanimous support of the SPC members.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. S. Dooley, seconded by Cllr. P. Ormond, the members resolved to place the <i>Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2014-2020</i> on public display for a period of not less than six week.</p> <p>Mr. D. Kirrane advised that a Manager's Report on the submissions received would then be prepared and be placed for the members' consideration at the next available Council meeting.</p>
<p>PART VIII – PROPOSED EXTENSION TO CEMETERY AT RAHEEN, GEASHILL</p>	<p>Mr. S. Murray D.O.S informed the members that the requirements of the <i>Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001 (Part 8)</i> in relation to the proposed extension to the cemetery at Raheen, Geashill were complied with. He noted that no submissions were received.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. G. Plunkett, seconded by Cllr. N. Bourke, the members resolved to adopt the proposed extension to the cemetery at Raheen, Geashill.</p>
<p>AMENDMENT TO BURIAL GROUNDS POLICY</p>	<p>Cllr. J. Leahy, Chairperson of the Environment & Water Services SPC outlined the amendments proposed to <i>Offaly County Council's Burial Ground Policy</i>.</p> <p>A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. S. Murray, DOS clarified that the proposed amendments had resulted following a number of representations from community groups.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Leahy, seconded by Cllr. T. McKeigue, the members resolved to adopt the proposed amendments, as circulated. It was agreed that a report on the matter would be provided to the members after a twelve month period.</p>
<p>CONTROL OF HORSES BYELAWS 2014</p>	<p>Mr. S. Murray D.O.S directed the members' attention to the <i>Offaly Local Authorities Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2014</i>, which was circulated with the Agenda.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Leahy, seconded by Cllr. P. Ormond, the members resolved in accordance with Part 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001 to give notice that it intends to make bye-laws, within the boundary of County Offaly, upon expiry of not less than two months from the publication of the notice.</p> <p>Mr. B. Pey, A.O., Environment advised that the Draft Bye-Laws would be available for inspection and that submissions may be made before 5pm on 31st January</p>

	<p>2014. He advised that the Manager's Report on the submissions received would be prepared in February 2014.</p>
<p>FINANCE REPORT: (i) QUARTER 3, 2013 OUTTURN (ii) BUDGET 2014: DATES FOR MEETINGS</p>	<p>(i) QUARTER 3, 2013 OUTTURN Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F. circulated the <i>Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division: Year to Date to Quarter End 30/09/2013</i> to the members.</p> <p>Mr. D. Conlon informed the meeting that the rate of expenditure increase had stabilised and at €361,034 is marginally down on Quarter 2. Mr. D. Conlon in responding to questions raised advised that every effort is being made to control expenditure and maximise income.</p> <p>(ii) BUDGET 2014: DATES FOR MEETINGS Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F. informed the meeting that Offaly County Council had not received notification of its Local Government Fund for 2014. The members agreed to meet to consider the Draft 2014 Budget as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate Policy Committee Meeting: 10am, Monday, 9th December 2013; - In-Committee Budget Meeting: 2pm, Monday, 9th December 2013; - Statutory Budget Meeting: 2pm, Monday, 16th December 2013; - December Council Meeting: 3.30pm, Monday, 16th December 2013.
<p>CLARA COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN:</p>	<p>The members joined with Mr. D. Kirrane in welcoming the publication of the <i>Clara Community Action Plan 2012-2014</i>.</p>
<p>CORPORATE POLICY GROUP REPORT:</p>	<p>Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan, Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that the Council Agenda was considered and the list of conferences was approved at the Corporate Policy Group meeting held earlier that day.</p> <p>Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan, Cathaoirleach advised that Mr. D. Kirrane D.O.S. informed the C.P.G. meeting that an Action Plan on the establishment of the Municipal Districts in Offaly is being finalised. She noted that the <i>Local Government Bill 2013</i> is at the Committee stage in the Dáil.</p>
<p>NOTICES OF MOTION:</p>	<p>(i) The following motion was proposed by Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley, and agreed:</p> <p><i>“That Offaly County Council calls on the Minister for Social and Family Affairs to amend the criteria for people qualifying for Contributory State Pension to allow for people who had gap years in their contributions such as women who were forced to retire because of what was known as the marriage ban and other people both men and women who left the work place to care for family members, and subsequently returned but now finds themselves falling short for a full pension.”</i></p>

	<p>(ii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Buckley , seconded by Cllr. C. Hanniffy, and agreed:</p> <p><i>“That Offaly County Council writes to the Minister for Health requesting that he lift the ban on Nurse recruitment.”</i></p> <p>It was agreed to circulate the motion to all other councils.</p> <p>(iii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Buckley:</p> <p><i>“That Offaly County Council will outline the plan for severe weather conditions.”</i></p> <p>Mr. F. Heslin D.O.S. advised that the Winter Service Plan was considered at area meetings and noted that the <i>Offaly Local Authorities: Winter Service Plan for Roads 2013–2014</i> is available on the Council’s website, www.offaly.ie</p>
<p>COMHDHÁLACHA:</p>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. M. Buckley, seconded by Cllr. D. Owens, conferences were approved as follows:</p> <p><i>“Training Seminar – Budget 2014 for Canvassing”</i> <i>Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Newland’s Cross, Naas Road, Dublin 22</i> <i>22nd – 24th November 2013</i> It was agreed that no councillor would attend.</p> <p><i>“Training Seminar – SIPO & Councillors’ Obligations”</i> <i>Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Newland’s Cross, Naas Road, Dublin 22</i> <i>29th November – 1st December 2013</i> It was agreed that Cllr. E. Dooley would attend.</p> <p><i>“Councillor Information Seminar & Professional Development Day – Contemporary overview of immigration into Ireland”</i> <i>Bunratty Castle Hotel, Bunratty, Co. Clare</i> <i>6th – 7th December 2013</i> It was agreed that no councillor would attend.</p> <p><i>“Training Seminar – Changing Trends and approaches to drug and alcohol abuse”</i> <i>Cahir House Hotel, Cahir, Co. Tipperary</i> <i>6th – 8th December 2013</i> It was agreed that Cllrs. N. Bourke and P. Rowland would attend.</p> <p><i>“Professional Development Seminar for Councillors – Putting people first – Update on Local Government Reform to date”</i> <i>Grainne Suite, Bunratty Castle Hotel, Bunratty, Co. Clare</i> <i>13th – 14th December 2013</i> It was agreed that no councillor would attend.</p>

