

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UÍBH FHAILÍ**

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

**HELD IN CRANK HOUSE, BANAGHER, CO. OFFALY ON MONDAY,  
19TH MAY 2014 AT 2.00 P.M.**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan, Cathaoirleach (Presiding), Cllrs. M. Buckley, J. Butterfield, J. Carroll, P. Clendennen, D. Dolan, E. Dooley, S. Dooley, E. Fitzpatrick, J. Foley, C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, J. Leahy, T. McKeigue, T. McLoughlin, P. Ormond, D. Owens, L. Quinn and P. Rowland.
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mr. S. Murray, County Manager, Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F, Mr. D. Kirrane, D.O.S, Mr. F. Heslin, D.O.S., Mr. T. Mawe, Financial Management Accountant, Ms. M. Cleary, Meetings Administrator, Mr. G. Bruton, A.O., Ms. F. Flaherty C.O.
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Cllrs. G. Plunkett and N. Bourke.
<b>VOTES OF SYMPATHY:</b>	<p>Votes of sympathy were unanimously extended to the following:-</p> <p>Rachel McKenna, Offaly County Council on the death of her father, Dennis;</p> <p>Kathleen Hughes and family Portland, Lorrha, Co. Tipperary on the death of her husband, Greg;</p> <p>Susan Murphy, Arden Vale, Tullamore on the death of her husband, Michael;</p> <p>Vincent O' Brien, 2 Church Avenue, Tullamore on the death of his mother, Olive;</p> <p>Margaret Hughes, Clonminch Road, Tullamore on the death of her brother-in-law, Greg;</p> <p>Sr. Cecilia Flynn, Convent of Mercy, Tullamore on the death of her brother, John-Joe Flynn;</p> <p>Lily Moloney, Cloneygowan Village, Tullamore on the death of her brother, Paddy Kilroe;</p> <p>Aidan Carroll, Garryhinch Cross, Portarlinton on the death of his father, Jim;</p> <p>Elizabeth Bracken, Avondale Estate, Portarlinton on the death of her husband, Milo;</p> <p>Gillian &amp; Ronan Treacy, Avondale, Portarlinton on the death of their son, Ciaran;</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</p>

	of sympathy.
<b>BEST WISHES:</b>	All the members joined with Cllr. J. Foley in wishing Cllr. N. Bourke a speedy recovery. The County Manager on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff passed on his best wishes also.
<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:</b>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. S. Dooley, seconded by Cllr. J. Leahy, the minutes of the April monthly meeting held in Áras An Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 28th April 2014 were agreed and adopted.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. M. Buckley, the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council to consider the Manager's Report on the <i>Draft County Development Plan 2014-2020</i> held in Áras an Chontae, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014 were agreed and adopted.</p>
<b>MINUTES FOR NOTING:</b>	The minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2014 were noted
<b>S.183 NOTICE - DISPOSAL OF LANDS AT PUTTAUGHAN, TULLAMORE</b>	On the proposal of Cllr. D. Owens, seconded by Cllr. T. McKeigue the members agreed to the disposal of land at Puttaughan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly in accordance with the terms of the S.183 notice dated 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2014.
<b>ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2013 / OVER-EXPENDITURE</b>	<p>Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F, drew the members' attention to the Draft <i>Unaudited Annual Financial Statement, Offaly County Council for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013</i>, which was circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Mr. D. Conlon informed the members that there was an overall surplus of €404,098.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Leahy, seconded by Cllr. N. Hogan, the members resolved to approve and adopt the over expenditure for 2013 in the sum of €5,098,968.</p> <p>Cllr J. Carroll, sought clarification that the Council had made the Deficit provision of €660,774 as approved. Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F., advised that this sum was included in the Annual Financial Statement.</p> <p>Cllr C. Hanniffy congratulated the Finance Team and her fellow Councillors for the improved financial position that the Council find itself in. She noted the challenging budgetary process that faced the members and executive in the coming years.</p>
<b>CORPORATE POLICY GROUP REPORT:</b>	Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan, Cathaoirleach reported on the Corporate Policy Group meeting held earlier that morning. She advised that Mr. D. Kirrane, D.O.S., provided an update in relation to Municipal Districts. She informed the members that some guidelines had issued from the Department and would be circulated to the new council. The Council Meeting Agenda was also considered.

	<p>She noted that the Annual Council meeting of Offaly County Council will be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 2.00pm.</p>
<p><b>COMHDHÁLACHA:</b></p>	<p>Retrospective Approval for conference attendance “The Elected Member, the Environment and the Community” Held in The Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Cllr. N. Hogan’s attendance was approved</p> <p>Retrospective Approval for conference attendance “ Training Seminar – River Flooding and Management Issues Held in Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Cllr. J. Butterfield’s attendance was approved.</p> <p>Retrospective Approval for conference attendance “Training Seminar – Managing Change in Local Government” Held in The Quality Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> May 20014 Cllr. J. Butterfield’s attendance was approved.</p>
<p><b>COMHFHREAGRAS:</b></p>	<p>No correspondence was received</p>
<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Water Rehabilitation Scheme in Birr</u></b> Cllr. J. Carroll voiced concerns over the condition that the roads are being left in Birr by the contractors as the work on the Water Rehabilitation Scheme continues in the town. He highlighted the damage done to cars and the anger of motorists and cyclists in the town. He noted that the citizens of the town are blaming the Council for this disruption.</p> <p>Mr. S. Murray, County Manager agreed it was a very serious matter and that the Senior Engineers from Roads and Environment would arrange to meet with the Contractors to discuss the issues raised.</p> <p><b><u>Offaly Person of the Year Award</u></b> Cllr. M. Buckley offered her congratulations to Mr. Sean Norman who won the award. She congratulated Cllr C. Hanniffy on her role as MC on the Awards Night.</p> <p><b><u>Irish Water</u></b> Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick expressed concern with the fault reporting system put in place by Irish Water. He noted that a job number was required from Irish Water before any work could commence on dealing with faults or leakages. He noted that this arrangement was not satisfactory when dealing with emergencies.</p> <p>Mr. S. Murray noted that Standard Operating Procedures are evolving and there are likely to be initial problems, as with any new system. He advised that he would raise the issue with Irish Water’s Regional Manager.</p>

**Outgoing Members**

Cllr. S. Moylan-Ryan, Cathaoirleach, noted that seven of the current 21 members are retiring from the Council and would not be standing in the upcoming Local Elections, i.e., Cllrs. J. Butterfield, P. Clendennen, C. Hanniffy, N. Hogan, P. Rowland and herself. She noted that two of the longest serving members of the Council, Cllr. Connie Hanniffy and Cllr. Johnny Butterfield were retiring. She wished them well in their retirement and in their future endeavours. She thanked all those retiring for their tireless service to the people of Offaly and the Council.

The elected members concurred with the Cathaoirleach's remarks and wished the retirees best wishes for the future.

The County Manager on his own behalf and behalf of the staff joined with the remarks.

The Cathaoirleach wished all the candidates in the upcoming Local Elections, every success. She paid tribute to all the staff and the Management of Offaly County Council for their assistance throughout the term of the current Council. She thanked the members for their good work, thanked the various organisations and boards that the members served on and thanked the media.

The County Manager, thanked the members for all their work throughout their term in Council. He stated that it was a very productive Council, which was fastidious in the execution of their duties. He wished all those standing well in the upcoming local elections.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**MINUTES CONFIRMED:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**6<sup>th</sup> June 2014**