

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UÍBH FHAILÍ

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

**HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, CHARLEVILLE ROAD, TULLAMORE
ON MONDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER 2015 AT 4.35 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Cllr. E. Dooley, Cathaoirleach (Presiding), Cllrs. N. Bourke, J. Carroll, J. Clendennen, N. Cribbin, D. Dolan, S. Dooley, E. Fitzpatrick, J. Foley, D. Harvey, , T. McKeigue, C. Nolan, M. O'Reilly, P. Ormond, D. Owens and L. Quinn.
APOLOGIES:	Cllrs. B. Killeavy, J. Leahy, F. Moran
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mr. D. Kirrane, Chief Executive; Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F; Mr. F. Heslin, D.O.S; Mr. T. Shanahan, A/D.O.S; Mr. M. Daly, A/D.O.S; Mr. D. Meehan, E.P.; Mr. W. Ryan, E.E.; Mr. G. Bruton, A/Meetings Administrator; Ms. F. Flaherty C.O.
VOTES OF SYMPATHY:	<p>Votes of sympathy were unanimously extended to the following:-</p> <p>The Family of Mr. Pat Dunne, St. O' Hara, Tullamore;</p> <p>Mrs. Kathleen Brophy, Droughtville, Kinnitty, Birr on the death of her husband, Timothy;</p> <p>Mr. Peadar Coughlan, Ballyoran, Kilcormac on the death of his wife, Annie;</p> <p>The Family of Mr. Sylvester Murray, Annaghmore House, Kilcormac;</p> <p>Mrs. Mary Gowing, Daingean on the death of her husband, Thomas;</p> <p>Mrs. Concepta Cooke & Family, Grove St, Crinkle, Birr on the death of her husband, Sean;</p> <p>Mrs. Marion Rabbette, Woodfield, Clara on the death of her husband, Joe;</p> <p>Mrs. Kathleen Deegan, The Borness, Mountmellick, Co. Laois on the death of her husband, John Jack;</p> <p>Ms. Sarah Morgan, Offaly County Council on the death of her mother, Mrs. Sarah Coffey;</p> <p>Mr. Ger Farrell, Assumption Road, Edenderry on the death of his brother, Eamon;</p> <p>Mrs. Mary Loughlin & Family, 18 Killane Crescent, Edenderry on the death of her daughter, Martina;</p>

<p>VOTES OF SYMPATHY: (contd)</p>	<p>The family of Mr. James Fogarty, 3 Roscrea Road, Birr;</p> <p>Mrs. Kitty McNally, Ballykilmurray, Tullamore on the death of her husband, Mick;</p> <p>Mr. Brian Walsh, Cloneyhurke, Portarlinton on the death of his mother, Elizabeth;</p> <p>Mr. Tim Garry, Cloneyquinn, Portarlinton on the death of his father, Jim;</p> <p>Mr. Liam Corcoran, Coolagarry, Walsh Island on the death of his brother, Christopher;</p> <p>Mr. Declan Byrne, Kildrumman, Bracknagh on the death of his mother, Philomena</p> <p>The Chief Executive, on his own behalf and on behalf of the staff of the Council joined with the members in these votes of sympathy.</p>
<p>VOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS:</p>	<p>The members joined with the Cathaoirleach in congratulating Cllr. T. McKeigue on the birth of his first grandson, Leo James.</p>
<p>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:</p>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Clendennen, seconded by Cllr. D. Dolan, the members resolved to adopt the minutes of the October Monthly Meeting held in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 19th October 2015.</p>
<p>MINUTES FOR NOTING:</p>	<p>The minutes of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held in Áras an Chontae, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 21st September 2015 were noted.</p>
<p>S.183 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001, AS AMENDED – DISPOSAL OF FREEHOLD INTEREST IN LANDS IN THE TOWNLAND OF CLONCOLLIG AS FOLLOWS: 0.14 ACRES APPROX., PRIVATE HOUSING SITE NO 12; & 0.154 ACRES APPROX., PRIVATE HOUSING SITE 14 CLONCOLLIG, TULLAMORE</p>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. S. Dooley, seconded by Cllr. D. Dolan, the members resolved to dispose of the freehold interest in 0.14 acres approx., private housing site no 12; & 0.154 acres approx., private housing site 14 at Cloncollig , Co. Offaly in accordance with the terms of the S.183 notice dated 4th November 2015.</p>

<p>PART VIII – BROCCA ROAD GROUP SEWERAGE SCHEME, MUCKLAGH</p>	<p>Mr. T. Shanahan, A/D.O.S. directed the members’ attention to the report that had circulated with the agenda. He recommended that the Part VIII be adopted.</p> <p>He noted that two submissions were received in relation to the Scheme and following consideration of the submissions it was agreed to relocate the sewerage pumping station to the rear of the of the existing dwellings. He advised that all the residents on the Scheme had agreed to this re-location.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. S. Dooley, seconded by Cllr. T. McKeigue, the members resolved to adopt the Part VIII proposal in accordance with the terms of the notice dated 18th November 2015, the construction of proposed Brocca Road Sewerage Scheme at Mucklagh.</p>
<p>PART VIII – CYCLEWAY: DIGBY BRIDGE TO LOUGH BOORA</p>	<p>Mr. S Murray, D.O.S. directed the members’ attention to the report which circulated with the agenda. Mr. D. Meehan, Executive Planner, noted the public consultation period and informed the members that sixteen (16) submissions and observations were received; four (4) from prescribed bodies and twelve (12) from other parties. He provided an overview of each of the submissions and observations received and outlined the Council’s response in relation to the concerns raised. He recommended proceeding with the proposed development taking into consideration the submissions and observations received.</p> <p>The members queried some aspects of the proposed development. They enquired if existing agricultural access would be impeded by the proposals, and enquired if passing points would be incorporated on the route. They queried the proposed surface finishes to be applied to the route, and queried if the route would impact on parking at Convent View. Concern was also expressed that there may be a need to put in place controls in relation to camp fires, and that there may be a need to provide toilet facilities and water points on the route. Cllr D. Dolan enquired if Bord na Mona had considered re-locating the “Bog Train” that had run in Shannonbridge in previous years to Lough Boora.</p> <p>Mr Murray and Mr Meehan dealt with the members queries. They advised that quarry dust would be used as a surface finish on a portion of the route. They noted that this material was chosen on cost considerations and also as it was an excellent material to regulate speed this would ensure that the route would be primarily used for leisure cycling. Mr Murray advised that he had met with representatives of the DoECLG and had impressed on them that the Council wished to commence this Project as soon as possible.</p> <p>The Chief Executive reported that Bord na Mona had advised that they were exploring the possibility of re-locating the Bog Train to Lough Boora, they were also considering improving disabled and reduced mobility access to the Parklands. They</p>

<p>PART VIII – CYCLEWAY: DIGBY BRIDGE TO LOUGH BOORA (contd)</p>	<p>were also considering options to retain the bog rail network as a tourist attraction.</p> <p>The Chief Executive noted the launch of the Offaly Tourism website and the new tourism brand – “<i>Offaly –Ireland’s Hidden Gem</i>”. He noted that this project would be a welcome addition to the various tourist attractions in the County.</p> <p>Mr S. Murray recommended that the Part VIII be adopted.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. D. Dolan, seconded by Cllr. S. Dooley, the members resolved to adopt the Part VIII proposal in accordance with the terms of the notice dated 18th November 2015.</p> <p>Following a discussion in relation to the Offaly Tourism Group, the members, on the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. D. Owens the members nominated Cllr. John Clendennen to serve on the Offaly Tourism Group.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. E, Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey, the members nominated Cllr. Sinead Dooley to serve on the Offaly Tourism Group.</p>
<p>SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS</p>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. S. Dooley, seconded by Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, it was agreed to suspend standing orders to allow the meeting continue after 6pm.</p>
<p>ROADS WINTER MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2015</p>	<p>Mr. W. Ryan, E.E. drew the members attention to Roads Winter Maintenance Programme 2015 for Offaly. He briefed the members on the Programme for 2015.</p> <p>The members welcomed the inclusion of some additional roads in the Programme and requested that the Roads Section consider including other busy roads, specifically the R400 (Mountlucas – Cushina), the Killina School Area, set-down area at Colaiste Iosagain, Portarlinton, and the Kilbeggan Bridge, Tullamore. The members noted that the IFA had expressed an interest in supplementing County Council services. The Cathaoirleach queried if there was sufficient salt reserves in the County.</p> <p>Mr. C. McCarthy, Senior Engineer, and Mr. Ryan dealt with the members queries and comments. They advised that there were sufficient salt reserves, however as the organisation was at the limit of its resources there was limited scope to include additional areas in the Programme. Mr. McCarthy advised that he would review some of the areas mentioned by the members and advised that the Area Engineers may have some capacity to assist with some of the areas mentioned. He advised that if there was any surplus from the Winter Maintenance Programme, the surplus would be put into the ordinary Road Maintenance Programme.</p>
<p>MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT:</p>	<p>The members noted the comprehensive Management Report that was circulated with the Agenda.</p>

<p>CORPORATE POLICY GROUP REPORT:</p>	<p>Cllr. E. Dooley, Cathaoirleach advised that the Corporate Policy Group met on 16th November 2015 to consider the November Monthly Council Agenda and to approve the list of conferences and training courses for circulation. He reminded the members that the December monthly meeting will be held on Monday 14th December 2015 as agreed at the October monthly meeting.</p>
<p>NOTICES OF MOTION:</p>	<p>(i) The following motion was proposed by Cllr. S. Dooley and seconded by Cllr. D. Owens:</p> <p><i>"In light of the Valuation Office decision to reduce global valuations of utility companies and that the resulting reduction in commercial rates payable that Offaly County Council write to the Minister and seek to have the loss of revenue to this Council reimbursed directly in our Central Government Allocation."</i></p> <p>The motion was discussed at the In-Committee Budget Meeting 23rd November 2015, and adopted.</p> <p>(ii) Cllr. S. Dooley's second motion was deferred until the December Monthly Meeting.</p>
<p>COMHDHÁLACHA:</p>	<p>The members noted and approved the conferences and training seminars as follows:</p> <p><u>CONFERENCES:</u></p> <p>Celtic Conferences "A Practical Guide to Budget 2016" 4th -6th December 2015 The Clonakilty Hotel, Co. Cork <i>It was agreed no member would attend.</i></p> <p>Superior Training "Local Government Environment Policy – Opportunities for Local Communities" 4th – 5th December 2015 Seven Oaks Hotel, Athy Road, Carlow <i>It was agreed no member would attend.</i></p> <p>Celtic Conferences "EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020" 11th – 13th December 2015 The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth <i>It was agreed no member would attend.</i></p> <p>Superior Training "Housing Public Policy & Local Government as it is and as it should be" 11th – 12th December 2015 Park House Hotel, Main Street, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford <i>It was agreed no member would attend.</i></p>

<p>COMHDHÁLACHA: (contd)</p>	<p>Celtic Conferences “Mobile Marketing of Tourist Destinations” 18th – 20th December 2015 The Clonakilty Hotel, Co. Cork <i>It was agreed no member would attend.</i></p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u></p> <p>Northern & Western Regional Assembly Association of Irish Regions (AIR) “New Regions, New Roles, New Responsibilities” Friday 20th November 2015 Meadow Court Hotel, Loughrea, Co. Galway <i>It was agreed no member would attend.</i></p> <p><i>Retrospective Approval is sought for Cllr. L. Quinn for attendance at AILG In-Service Training Day Saturday 14th November 2015, Red Cow, Dublin</i></p> <p><i>Retrospective approval is sought for Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick for attendance at Midlands Regional Energy Seminar 15th October 2015, Tullamore Court Hotel</i></p>
<p>COMHFHREAGRAS:</p>	<p>The correspondences that issued with the Agenda were noted.</p>
<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS:</p>	<p>None.</p>

This concluded the business of the meeting.

MINUTES CONFIRMED:

CATHAOIRLEACH

RUNAÍ

14th December 2015