

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UÍBH FHAILÍ

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

**HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, CHARLEVILLE ROAD, TULLAMORE
ON MONDAY, 17TH OCTOBER 2016 AT 2.00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, Cathaoirleach (Presiding), Cllrs. N. Bourke, J. Carroll, J. Clendennen, D. Dolan, E. Dooley, S. Dooley, J. Foley, D. Harvey, B. Killeavy, J. Leahy, S. Maher, T. McKeigue, M. O'Reilly, P. Ormond and D. Owens
IN ATTENDANCE:	Ms. A. Delaney, Chief Executive; Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F.; Mr. F. Heslin, D.O.S; Mr. D. Kirrane, D.O.S; Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S; Ms. M. Cleary, Meetings Administrator; Mr. M. Daly, S.E.O.; Mr. E. Henry, Sports Partnership Facilitator; Ms. F. Flaherty, C.O.; Ms. SJ Cleary, C.O.; Ms. F. Dunne, C.O.
APOLOGIES:	Cllrs. N. Cribbin, F. Moran and L. Quinn
VOTES OF SYMPATHY:	<p>Votes of sympathy were unanimously extended to the following:-</p> <p>The Family of Mr. Anthony Foley, Munster Rugby Head Coach;</p> <p>Mrs. Mary Kerins and Family, The Crescent, Birr on the death of her husband, Mr. Joe Kerins;</p> <p>Mr. Tony Delaney, Mile Tree, Birr on the death of his brother, Mr. William (Billy) Delaney;</p> <p>Mr. Sean Weldon, Enaghen, Walsh Island on the death of his mother, Mrs. Bridie Weldon;</p> <p>The Family of Mr. Tom Fletcher, Agall, Screggan, Tullamore; and</p> <p>Ms. Margaret English, The Green, Clara on the death of her mother, Mrs. Margaret (Peg) English;</p> <p>The Chief Executive, on her own behalf and on behalf of the staff of the Council joined with the members in these votes of sympathy.</p>
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Leahy, seconded by Cllr. S. Dooley, the members resolved to adopt the following minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In Committee meeting of Offaly County Council held in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore on 12th September 2016;- In Committee meeting of Offaly County Council held in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore on 19th September 2016;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - September meeting of Offaly County Council held in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore on 19th September 2016; and - Special meeting of Offaly County Council held in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore on 26th September 2016.
MINUTES FOR NOTING:	The minutes of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on 18 th July 2016 were noted.
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2015:	Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F. drew the members' attention to the <i>Annual Financial Statement 2015</i> that had circulated with the Council agenda. The members noted the Statement.
STATUTORY AUDIT REPORT 2015:	Mr. D. Conlon, H.O.F. drew the members' attention to the <i>Statutory Audit Report 2015</i> that had circulated with the Council agenda. He advised the members that it was reviewed by the Audit Committee. The members noted the Audit Report.
OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION 2017:	On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. J. Leahy, the members resolved to approve a provision for Overdraft Accommodation for 2017 in the sum of €15million.
DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING DATE:	<p>On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. S. Dooley, the members resolved to hold the December Monthly Meeting of the Council on Monday, 12th December 2016.</p> <p>Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, Cathaoirleach informed the members that the following meeting dates for November 2016 had been agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11am Monday, 7th November 2016: Corporate Policy Group Meeting; - 2pm Monday, 14th November 2016: In Committee Council Meeting to consider Budget 2017; - 2pm Monday, 21st November 2016: Statutory Budget 2017 Meeting; and - 3.30pm Monday, 21st November 2016: November Ordinary Monthly Meeting.
OFFALY TOURISM UPDATE:	<p>Mr. M. Daly, S.E.O, Tourism and Local Development gave an presentation on Tourism in Offaly noting in particular the establishment of Offaly Tourism Limited and the priorities being pursued by the group.</p> <p>The members joined with the Cathaoirleach in thanking Mr. M. Daly for his informative presentation. They acknowledged the significant work being done within the limited resources, both financial and personnel, on the development of tourism and the development of the tourism brand. The members reiterated the need for the Council and the tourism groups in Offaly to maximise the potential of two Offaly sites being included in Fáilte Ireland <i>Ireland's Ancient East</i> campaign. The need for a cohesive and coordinated approach was stressed. The announcement that Tullamore will host the</p>

	<p>National Ploughing Championships in 2017 was welcomed by the members. The members, noting their disappointment that Offaly had received no funding for the development of greenways along the canal, reaffirmed their commitment to continue to seek the development of the canal.</p> <p>Cllr. E. Dooley raised concerns regarding the future of Lough Boora Discovery Park. Cllr. E. Dooley proposal, seconded by Cllr. J. Leahy, to invite Bord na Móna to meet with the members was agreed.</p> <p>Mr. D. Kirrane, D.O.S. in responding to questions raised acknowledged that a coordinated approach and the development of a quality product will be required to ensure that economic activity and the generation of income within the County is maximised. He advised that an application to develop the canal was submitted to Fáilte Ireland.</p>
SPORTS PARTNERSHIP:	<p>Mr. E. Henry, Sports Partnership Facilitator gave a comprehensive presentation on Offaly Sports Partnership. He advised that Offaly Sports Partnership was established 10 years earlier and noted the special awards ceremony that will be held on 3rd December 2016 to mark the occasion. He advised that the Strategic Plan for the next 5 years will be launched at the reception. Mr. E. Henry noted some of the significant achievements of the Sports Partnership over the years and drew attention to the work done in relation to underrepresented groups and in particular to the work of the Social Inclusion Development Officer.</p> <p>The members acknowledged the help provided by Offaly Sports Partnership to the various sporting bodies during the past number of years. They thanked Mr. E. Henry and the staff of Offaly Sports Partnership for the assistance provided to groups preparing applications for Sports Capital Grants. The growth of a number of the sporting organisations within the county was assisted, they advised, by the work and dedication of the Sports Partnership staff and committees.</p>
MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT:	<p>Ms. A. Delaney, Chief Executive drew the members' attention to the monthly management report as circulated. It was agreed that an update with regard to the number of people on the Register of Electors would be included in the November Management Report. Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., clarified the housing statistics included in the report.</p>
CORPORATE POLICY GROUP REPORT:	<p>Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, Cathaoirleach advised that the Corporate Policy Group met on 17th October 2016 to consider the Monthly Council Agenda and to approve the list of conferences and training courses for circulation.</p>
NOTICES OF MOTION:	<p>The following motion was proposed by Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. J. Clendennen, and agreed by the members:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“In order to facilitate students attending college in Galway and other regular commuters that this Council meet with Iarnrod Eireann to discuss the addition of</i></p>

	<i>an earlier train service on the Tullamore to Galway Route.”</i>
COMHDHÁLACHA:	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Clendennen, seconded by Cllr. J. Leahy, the members noted and approved the conferences and training seminars as follows:</p> <p><u>CONFERENCES:</u></p> <p>Superior Training “Rebuilding Ireland – Action Plan for Housing & Homelessness” Park House Hotel, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford 4th – 5th November 2016 <i>It was agreed no Councillor would attend.</i></p> <p>Celtic Conferences “Waterways Ireland – The vision & expectations for 2017-2020” Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork 11th – 13th November 2016 <i>It was agreed no Councillor would attend.</i></p> <p>ACE Management & Training “2 Day Microsoft Excel Workshop for Councillors” Clonakilty Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork 30th November – 1st December 2016 <i>It was agreed no Councillor would attend.</i></p> <p>Ireland 1916-2016: The Promise of National Sovereignty” NUI Galway 10th - 12th November 2016 <i>It was agreed no Councillor would attend.</i></p> <p>Celtic Conferences “Rebuilding Ireland – Action Plan for Housing & Homelessness” The Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth 18th – 20th November 2016 <i>It was agreed no Councillor would attend.</i></p> <p><u>TRAINING:</u></p> <p>AILG Training Day National & Local Authority Emergency Planning - A briefing for Elected Members County Arms Hotel, Birr 18th October 2016 <i>It was agreed no Councillor would attend.</i></p> <p><u>RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL:</u></p> <p>Approval was given to the attendance of Cllr. J. Carroll at the LAMA Autumn Training Seminar “Brexit and Ireland” at The Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, Co.Cork, 30th September to 1st October 2016.</p>
COMHFHREAGRAS:	The correspondences that issued with the Agenda were noted.
ANY OTHER BUSINESS:	<p>TUSLA - Child and Family Agency Cllr. J. Leahy requested that Offaly County Council seek a meeting with Tusla - Child and Family Agency to discuss the</p>

	<p>underfunding and the future of Offaly Domestic Violence Support Service. The members expressed their concerns about the future of Offaly Domestic Violence Support Service noting that state intervention is paramount in providing these services into the future. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. S. Dooley and the members agreed to seek the meeting.</p> <p>Derelict Building, Conolly Park In responding to a question raised Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S. agreed to carry out an inspection of the premises.</p>
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This concluded the business of the meeting.

MINUTES CONFIRMED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH **RUNAÍ**

21st November 2016