

**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE UÍBH FHAILÍ**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, CHARLEVILLE ROAD, TULLAMORE  
ON MONDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020 AT 3.30 P.M.**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Cllr. P. Ormond, Cathaoirleach (Presiding), Cllrs. J. Carroll, C. Claffey, J. Clendennen, N. Cribbin, E. Dooley, N. Feighery, E. Fitzpatrick, J. Foley, D. Harvey, J. Leahy, M. Hackett, T. McCormack, R. McDermott, F. Moran, S. O'Brien, D. Owens, L. Quinn and K. Smollen.
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Ms. A. Delaney, Chief Executive; Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S. (R); Ms. S. Kennedy, D.O.S. (R); Mr. M. Connolly, H.O.F.; Ms. A. Dillon, A/D.O.S., Mr. G. Bruton, Meetings Administrator, Mr. R. Bell, H.I.S.; Mr. C. Melia, A.P. and Ms. L. Carbery, C.O. <i>[(R) denotes remote access]</i>
	<p>Cllr. P. Ormond, Cathaoirleach opened the meeting by thanking the members and the Executive for their co-operation and support over the past twelve months. He noted that the new members are gaining positive experience as elected members. He noted the retirements of valuable members of staff and in particular Mr. Frank Heslin, D.O.S. and Mr. Declan Conlon, H.O.F. He also thanked the Ms. Mary Flynn, Mr. Gerry Bruton, Ms. Ann Dillon and the corporate staff for their support in his role as Cathaoirleach.</p> <p>He brought the members attention to the many events that occurred during his role, in particular Shane Lowry's win of the Claret Cup and his homecoming hosted by Offaly County Council. He noted that sadly the same day planning permission was refused for an Bord Pleanala at Shannonbridge, bringing a lot of challenges for the future. He highlighted the progress with communities coming together, job creation, housing and the Just Transition Team. He commended the Offaly County Council staff in their work and co-operation during the Covid 19 crisis. He thanked his party Fianna Fáil for their support in allowing all voices to be heard. He thanked Cllr. John Leahy in his role as Leas Cathaoirleach and wished the incoming Cathaoirleach every success.</p> <p>On behalf of Fianna Fáil Cllr. E. Dooley commended Cllr. P. Ormond on his excellent handling of the role of Cathaoirleach and in his interaction with the new members. He thanked Cllr. Ormond's efforts to keep job losses at Bord na Mona on the agenda, especially in these unusual circumstances of Covid-19.</p> <p>On behalf of Fine Gael Cllr. L. Quinn thanked Cllr. P. Ormond for his non-confrontational, pragmatic and open communication as Cathaoirleach.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Leahy acknowledged the challenges in the past year and noted that he had been his pleasure to serve as Leas</p>

	<p>Cathaoirleach. The members joined in thanking Cllr. P. Ormond for his fair treatment to all members in his term as Cathaoirleach.</p> <p>Ms. A. Delaney, Chief Executive, on her own behalf and on behalf of the staff, joined with the members in thanking Cllr. P. Ormond for all his work during the year for the courtesy that he had extended to the Management Team and staff during the year.</p>
<p><b>ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH:</b></p>	<p>Cllr. J. Leahy proposed Cllr. J. Carroll for Cathaoirleach, citing his 50 years experience, beginning with Macra na Feirme in the 1970s. He informed the members of Cllr. J. Carroll's political career with Sinn Féin and later as an independent, noting his involvement in the community, serving on Birr Leisure Committee, Birr playground, the refurbishment of Crinkill handball alley. He highlighted Cllr. J. Carroll love of the Irish language, leading to his involvement in Birr Gael Scoil. He commended Cllr. J. Carroll for his work with Offaly Local Development Company, Birr travellers Support Group and Sports Partnership.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr. J. Leahy seconded by Cllr. E. Dooley, the members resolved to elect Cllr. J. Carroll as Cathaoirleach.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Ormond deemed Cllr. J. Carroll elected.</p> <p>As Gaelige Cllr. J. Carroll addressed the members, thanking them for their support and acknowledging the huge honour to be elected Cathaoirleach. He thanked Cllr. P. Ormond for his work in the difficult year stating that he has handled it well.</p> <p>He noted his pride in being elected on the centenary month of the first Offaly County Council, which consisted of 29 Sinn Féin members and 2 Labour party members. He informed the members that Sean Robbins had gained outstanding vote for Sinn Féin and Eamon Bulfin was elected Chairman, although he was in exile. He noted the two important resolutions that were passed, changing the name of the county from Kings County to Offaly and Philipstown to Daingean.</p> <p>He acknowledged the challenges facing the current council including De-carbonisation, job losses and Covid 19. He stated his support to re-purpose the PSO, development of the waterways, roads and local businesses.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Carroll thanked his wife Carmel, daughter Shauna and his son Donacha joining the meeting via Zoom from abroad, for their continued support.</p> <p>Ms. A. Delaney joined with the members in wishing Cllr. J. Carroll well in the position.</p>
<p><b>ELECTION OF LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH:</b></p>	<p>On the proposal of Cllr. E. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr. D. Owens, the members resolved to elect Cllr. E. Dooley as Leas Cathaoirleach.</p>

	<p>Noting Cllr. E. Dooley's experience and knowledge, in particular with regard to Bord an Mona, Cllr. J. Carroll deemed Cllr. E. Dooley elected.</p> <p>Cllr. E. Dooley thanked his proposer, seconder and members for his election.</p>
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This concluded the business of the meeting.

**MINUTES CONFIRMED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CATHAOIRLEACH** **RUNAÍ**

**20<sup>th</sup> July 2020**