

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Offaly County Council
Held on 20th June 2022 at 4.00 pm, in Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road,
Tullamore and via Zoom

Present

Cllr. Declan Harvey Cathaoirleach

Cllr. John Carroll	Cllr. John Leahy
Cllr. Eamon Dooley	Cllr. Tony McCormack
Cllr. Neil Feighery	Cllr. Robert McDermott
Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr. Frank Moran
Cllr. John Foley	Cllr. Peter Ormond
Cllr. Mark Hackett	Cllr. Danny Owens
Cllr. Noel Cribbin	Cllr. Liam Quinn
Cllr. Sean O'Brien	Cllr. Ken Smollen

The Meetings Administrator carried out a roll call to confirm attendance.

Apologies

Cllr. Clare Claffey, Cllr. John Clendennen

Officials in Attendance

Ms. A. Delaney, Chief Executive; Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S.; Ms. S. Kennedy, D.O.S.; Mr. M. Connolly, H.O.F.; Ms. A. Dillon A/D.O.S.; Mr. E. Fennell, S.E.O., Mr. G. Bruton, Meetings Administrator, and Mr. C. Kelly, S.O.

Cathaoirleach Address

Cllr. D. Harvey Cathaoirleach opened the meeting and thanked the Members and the Executive for their co-operation and support over the past twelve months.

He advised the members that he had set out to ensure that Offaly was recognised as a county where there is space to explore, space to innovate and space to grow and to recognise the important work undertaken by our communities, the length and breadth of the county.

He noted that while adhering to public health guidelines, he relished the opportunity to meet with volunteers at various functions and was delighted to recognise their ongoing efforts at the Volunteer Recognition Awards, various events and at civic receptions. He acknowledged the community and voluntary sector within the county and the resilience shown as the county dealt with the challenges

faced during the Just Transition process. He highlighted the importance that Just Transition protects the health, wellbeing and economies of the county. He acknowledged the supports provided by the Local Enterprise Office, Libraries and the Housing Department in providing business supports, training and the retrofit scheme.

He complemented the management and staff of Offaly County Council as they continue to provide front line services and supports during the Covid-19 pandemic. He welcomed the programme of works set out in the annual service delivery plans, the many projects under the Town and Village renewal schemes and the visits of various Ministers to Offaly show casing projects such as the Mountain Bike Trail at Kinnitty. He express his gratitude for the opportunity to represent Offaly this year with the IDA, Enterprise Ireland and Tourism in New York.

He welcomed the return of local live entertainment, secured with Department and match funding by Offaly County Council and the various events held such as Vex Robotics and the STEM programme.

He extended his congratulations to the recently elected Cathaoirleachs in the municipal districts and he thanked his family for their support.

Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. D. Harvey sought nominations for Cathaoirleach.

In proposing Cllr. F. Moran for Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Owens stated that Cllr. Moran would be an excellent advocate for the county. Cllr. T. McCormack seconded the proposal.

There being no other nominations, Cllr. D. Harvey deemed Cllr. F. Moran elected Cathaoirleach for the coming year.

Cllr. F. Moran thanked his proposer and seconder, his Fianna Fáil colleagues and his fellow members for their endorsement. He noted his honour on taking the position and he commended Cllr. D. Harvey on his enthusiasm and commitment over the past year. He expressed his commitment to the role and noted the challenges facing the county. He welcomed the challenge for his hometown of Clara in progressing the Town Centre First Plan. He looked forward to working with the members, management and staff and to bringing the views and concerns of the people to the chamber. He thanked the electorate, the Fianna Fáil Cumann, Deputy Barry Cowen and his extended family for their support

Ms. A. Delaney joined with the members in wishing Cllr. F. Moran well in the position.

Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

Cllr. F. Moran, Cathaoirleach sought nominations for the role of Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. D. Harvey proposed Cllr. T. McCormack for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach and this was seconded by Cllr. D. Owens.

There being no other nominations Cllr. F. Moran deemed Cllr. T. McCormack elected Leas Cathaoirleach for the coming year.

Cllr. T. McCormack thanked his proposer, seconder and the members for his election.

MINUTES CONFIRMED:

CATHAOIRLEACH

RUNAÍ

18th July 2022

