

**Minutes of Annual Council Meeting held in the Respond Centre, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2007 10.00 a.m.**

**Chair:** Cllr P McNally, Mayor (Outgoing Mayor)

**Present:** Cllrs Bannigan, Carthy, Carville, Conlon, Coyle, Crowe, Gallagher, Humphreys, Keelan, Keenan, Kieran, Maxwell, Martin, McAnespie, McElvaney, O'Brien, P. McKenna, B. McKenna, and Treanor.

Mr. D. Nelson, County Manager, Mr. P. Clifford, Mr M Fitzpatrick, Mr. A. King, Mr. D. Fallon, Directors of Service, Mr A Hughes, Senior Planner, Ms. C. Thornton, Meetings Administrator and Ms. A. Mackle, A/Staff Officer.

At the outset, the Mayor, Pdraig McNally, Cllr McElvaney, Cllr Maxwell, Cllr B McKenna, Gallagher and Cllr Martin extended a vote of sympathy to Cllr Pat McKenna and his family on the death of his Mother Margaret McKenna, R.I.P.

The County Manager, Declan Nelson said on a personal note and on behalf of the Staff of Monaghan County Council wished to extend his sympathy to Cllr Pat McKenna on the death of his mother.

***On the proposal of Cllr McElvaney, seconded by Cllr Maxwell the Members agreed to adjourn the meeting for five minutes as a mark of respect.***

On resumption of the meeting the Mayor welcomed the Members to the new Respond Centre located on the Convent Lands, Carrickmacross, and said he had thoroughly enjoyed his third term as Mayor, which has been one of the busiest in recent times. He referred to official opening of a number of projects which had taken place during the year namely the Monaghan Bypass, the Monaghan Leisure Centre which is one of the finest facilities in the region and a number of new housing schemes. Perhaps one of the hardest tasks which faced the members was the deliberations regarding the County Development Plan which had been an onerous task and which resulted in the production of an excellent plan for the county for the next five years.

He paid tribute to the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Heather Humphreys who had acted as Mayor on a number of occasions, and all of the Members for their co-operation through out the year. He also wished to thank the member of the Media and all the staff of Monaghan County Council and in particular the Meetings Administrator for all her help throughout the year.

**1. Election of Mayor:**

Cllr McNally sought nominations for the position of Mayor.

***Cllr Bannigan proposed Cllr Maxwell seconded that Cllr G Carville be nominated for the position of Mayor of County Monaghan.***

As there were no other nominations, Cllr Gary Carville was declared elected as Mayor.

Cllr Carville then assumed the position of Mayor. He thanked his proposer and seconder and the members for their support in his election to the position of Mayor. He paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their dedication and commitment during the past year. He outlined three objectives for his term as Mayor -

- (a) **To Market the County in a positive manner** – Progress had been achieved regarding the marketing of the county but there was more to be done. Cross Border links were to be encouraged, co-operation would continue with the County Enterprise Board, IDA and the County Development Board to ensure the development of the county.
- (b) **To make Monaghan a better place to live** – Social inequality must be tackled through the County Development Board; the delivery of infrastructure must continue with the opening of the Bypasses and link roads. The opening of the Convent Lands is an excellent example of what could be achieved. The restoration of the Courthouse in Castleblayney would need political support on a national scale. He also wanted to work towards ensuring the retention and development of health services at Monaghan General Hospital and the re-opening and development of the Ulster Canal.
- (c) **The importance of a sense of Team Work** – to achieve what was outlined would involve the Members and officials working together and to build on the work carried out during the development plan process. He welcomed the re-establishment of the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Council must maximise the positive aspects of this for the development of the county.

A number of members congratulated Mayor Carville on his election as Mayor and paid tribute to Cllr McNally for his work as Mayor of County Monaghan.

## 2. **Election of Deputy Mayor:**

The Mayor sought nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor

*Cllr M Carthy proposed, Cllr P Treanor seconded that Cllr J Crowe be nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor.*

As there was no other nomination for this position the Mayor declared Cllr Jackie Crowe elected as Deputy Mayor and congratulated him on his election.

Cllr Crowe thanked his proposer and seconder and the members for their support for his election to the position as Deputy Mayor. He said he looked forward to working with the new Mayor and assured him of his support through out the year. He also paid tribute to the outgoing Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their hard work during the year.

A number of members congratulated Cllr Crowe on his success.

