

**Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile na Lorgan,
Comhairle Contae Mhunieacháin**



**The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney
Monaghan County Council**

Minutes of proceedings of AGM of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District held in Carrickmacross Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, on Friday 27th June 2014 @ 10.00 am.

Present: Cllrs. Aidan Campbell, Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan, Pdraig McNally, PJ O’Hanlon, and Matt Carthy MEP

Also in attendance:- Eugene Cummins, Chief Executive Monaghan County Council, Adge King, Director of Services, Cathal Flynn, Coordinator, Frances Matthews, Alan Hall, John Lennon, Joe Durnin, Mickey Duffy, Amanda Murray, Teresa McGuirk, Mary Marron, Stephanie McEneaney, Philomena Carroll

Press – Veronica Corr, Northern Standard, Martin Shannon, Anglo Celt and Kieran Ward, Northern Sound Radio and Pat Byrne, photographer.

Apologies - none

Election of Cathaoirleach

Cathal Flynn, Coordinator took the chair and welcomed all stating the AGM, represented a significant milestone in the history of local government for Carrickmacross and Castleblayney.

Cllr Keelan welcomed coordinator and staff and wished well in their new roles. Cllr Keelan proposed Cllr Jackie Crowe for the position of Cathaoirleach. This was seconded by Cllr Aidan Campbell.

The coordinator enquired if there were any further nominations. As no further nominations were received Mr Flynn declared Cllr Crowe duly elected as Cathaoirleach. Cllr Crowe then took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Cllr Crowe thanked his proposer and seconder stating that he was deeply honoured and humbled to become the first chair of the new Municipal District of Carrickmacross - Castleblayney. Cllr Crowe gave his commitment to work along with coordinator, staff and elected members to ensure the Municipal District can work for the benefit of the people. He also gave his commitment to work with the Chief Executive and staff to bring about economic revival in the district.

Election of Leas Chathaoirleach

Cllr McNally extended his congratulations to Cllr Crowe on becoming the first chair of the new Municipal District; it was a proud day for him and his family. Cllr McNally then proposed Cllr O'Hanlon for the position of Leas Chathaoirleach. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan.

Cllr Crowe enquired if there were any further nominations. As no further nominations Cllr Crowe declared Cllr O'Hanlon duly elected as Leas Chathaoirleach.

Cllr O'Hanlon thanked his proposer and seconder and extended his congratulations to Cllr Crowe on his election as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr Crowe in turn congratulated Cllr O'Hanlon on his election and extended his wish to work together as a team for the good of the district.

In congratulating Cllrs Crowe and O'Hanlon, Mr Cummins stated that he was very encouraged by both members commitment; it is a very significant day for the district and its people and acknowledged that in this new system of local government, members would have more control over how we deliver services. This new era will be all about working with communities with a new focus on outcomes and looked forward to working the elected members.

Mr Cummins also acknowledged the vital work done by members of the press through their fair and balanced reporting and the new roles of the Councillors going forward in energising and engaging with communities through participation in public networks which are there to facilitate councillors carry out their work. All the work of the area will now be delivered by the 6 elected members of the district. Their roles have never been more

important; in the new local government reform act councillors have increased powers while the executive has decreased powers.

The next few months would be challenging, with particular reference to budget preparation; there will be early engagement with councillors in making decisions with regard to the Local Property Tax for example. All three Municipal Districts will be treated equally and fairly. Early identification of needs of communities will mean a complete and full engagement with communities in terms of development, needs and desires. Mr Cummins acknowledged the work done in keeping the town of Carrickmacross tidy with a notable absence of litter.

In extending best wishes for the future to the Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach Mr Cummins stated he was proud to be here as part of the full team, asking that the citizens of the district be patient with us in getting services delivered.

Cllr Crowe thanked Mr Cummins for his words and looked forward to working with the Chief Executive and his staff.

In welcoming Matt Carthy MEP to the chamber Cllr Keelan thanked him for all his work in the past and wished him well in representing the region in Europe.

Mr Carthy informed the meeting that he had resigned from Monaghan County Council at their meeting last Monday and would no longer be a member of the new municipal district. He wished everyone the very best for the future.

Adoption of Standing orders

Members went through the details of the Standing Orders. Following a discussion the following was agreed

- Quorum for the meetings would be 3 in number
- Meetings would be held monthly on the fourth Monday of the month at 10am in the Civic Offices in Carrickmacross or at another time or venue if so desired and agreed by members
- Members could submit two questions per meeting (only one part to each question)
- Sections 17.1 and 17.2 should refer to Chief Executive or his nominee

- Further to 1 above it was agreed that a meeting of the Municipal District was urgently required rather than wait until the last Monday of July – members agreed that the July meeting be moved to Friday 4th July @ 10am in the Civic Offices.

In conclusion Cllr McNally proposed the adoption of the Standing Orders. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan.

Function and role of Municipal District + Outline of Reserved Functions

Adge King gave a presentation to members on the function and role of the Municipal District covering topics such as Key Functions of the Members; Considerations in the delivery of reserved functions; New Reserved Functions to be delivered at Municipal District level and District Management Protocol.

Following a query as to what staff were in place in each section it was agreed to circulate a detailed breakdown to members within the next two weeks. Mr King's presentation is to be made available to all.

In reply to a query regarding the equality of areas Mr Cummins stated that any discretionary monies available after strategic issues are considered (eg. A5/N2 road, debt issues and equalisation of rates) would be equally distributed to all districts – no area would be at a disadvantage.

Report by Municipal District Coordinator

Cathal Flynn, Coordinator circulated copies of his report which outlined an 'At a Glance' view of new district (population, area, road length, housing units); the Office Team; Actions for the first months and the challenges and opportunities for the District over the next twelve months.

Mr Flynn congratulated Carrickmacross Tidy Towns committee on their recent achievements in Irelands Best Kept Town Competition 2014.

Cllr Crowe thanked Mr Flynn for his detailed report.

Nomination of members to

1. Carrickmacross/Carhais Twinning Committee – Two positions

Cllr McNally proposed Cllr O’Hanlon for the position. This was seconded by Cllr Crowe and agreed.

Cllr Keelan proposed the new member to be co-opted to Matt Carthy’s seat. This was seconded by Cllr Crowe and agreed.

2. Castleblayney Twinning Committee – Two Positions

Cllr Crowe proposed Cllr Campbell for the position. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed.

Cllr Campbell proposed Cllr Crowe for the position. This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and was agreed.

Following a query as to whether or not the two committees should join together it was agreed that the two committees would meet to discuss.

AOB

Cllr O’Hanlon proposed the following notice of motion. This was seconded by Cllr McNally.

“That the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District calls on Mr. Fergal Connolly of the H.S.E.(responsible for dental services – Monaghan) to attend a special meeting iwth the new Municipal District as soon as possible at whatever time and date suits him to discuss the Old Clinic at St. Macartans Villas and also to discuss the dental services in Castleblayney” .

Following short discussion members adopted and signed the motion. Letter to be sent to TD’s requesting their attendance at the special meeting when convened.

Cllr O’Hanlon requested that a detailed analysis of works / proposals for the junction at the Kingscourt road be provided at the 4th July meeting

Cllr Keelan wished to be associated with both motions.

Cllr Crowe thanked all for their cooperation and expressed his hope that all go well for the future.

The meeting concluded at 11.30.

Correct

Cathaoirleach.

Meetings Administrator

Date: 4th July, 2014.