



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting

13th June 2022, Solstice Theatre @ 10.30a.m.

Presiding

Councillor Sean Drew Cathaoirleach

Councillors Present:

Councillors Tom Behan, Joe Bonner, Mike Bray, Eugene Cassidy, Francis Deane, Aisling Dempsey, Seán Drew, Edward Fennessy, Brian Fitzgerald, Pdraig Fitzsimons, Joe Fox, Michael Gallagher, Deirdre Geraghty-Smith, David Gilroy, Trevor Golden, Wayne Harding, Suzanne Jamal, Geraldine Keogan, Nick Killian, Alan Lawes, Paul McCabe, Elaine McGinty, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Ronan Moore, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Damien O'Reilly, Sarah Reilly, Tommy Reilly, Amanda Smith, Alan Tobin, Emer Tóibín, Gillian Toole, Conor Tormey.

Apologies: Councillors: Yemi Adenuga, Noel French Aisling O'Neill, Niamh Souhan, Sharon Tolan.

Officials in attendance:

Chief Executive: Jackie Maguire

Directors of Service: Des Foley, Fiona Lawless, Martin Murray, Dara McGowan

Meetings Administrator: Elaine Daly

1 Election of An Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach opened the meeting and reflected on his year as Cathaoirleach and the work of the Council over the last 12 months. He acknowledged the many political issues that had progressed during his term in office including the adoption of the Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2027 and the inclusion of the Navan Rail in the NTA Draft Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area. He acknowledged the level of housing allocations throughout the year and the number of housing units in the pipeline. Finally, he thanked the elected members for their work and co-operation during the year and to the Management Team and various officials for their support and contribution during his term in office. He acknowledged the work ethic and professionalism of the almost 900 staff that work for Meath County Council.

There were expressions of gratitude to the out-going Cathaoirleach from **Councillors Gerry O'Connor; Damien O' Reilly; Ronan Moore; Brian Fitzgerald; David Gilroy; Eddie Fennessy; Elaine McGinty; Emer Tóibín** and **Francis Deane**. All referenced the professionalism and dignity of the Cathaoirleach with many paying tributes to how the Cathaoirleach chaired the meetings and dealt with all issues in a fair and open manner.



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The Chief Executive thanked Councillor Drew for his work and contribution during his time as Cathaoirleach, she highlighted the professional and dignified manner in which he carried out his duties as Cathaoirleach, his courteousness in dealing with staff and his interactions with communities and groups during the year. She presented him with an e-album of images of his time in office.

The Cathaoirleach then invited nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Nick Killian was proposed for the position of Cathaoirleach by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** and seconded by **Councillor Damien O'Reilly**, with both setting out the reasons as to why Councillor Killian should be elected.

Councillor Sarah Reilly was proposed for the position of Cathaoirleach by **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**, with both setting out the reasons as to why Councillor Reilly should be elected.

Councillor Joe Bonner was proposed for the position of Cathaoirleach by **Councillor Michael Gallagher** and seconded by **Councillor Eddie Fennessy**, with both setting out the reasons as to why Councillor Bonner should be elected.

A roll call vote was taken with the following result:

	Killian	Reilly	Bonner	Abstain	Absent
ADENUGA, Yemi					X
BEHAN, Tom	X				
BONNER, Joseph			X		
BRAY, Mike	X				
CASSIDY, Eugene		X			
DEANE, Francis	X				
DEMPSEY, Aisling	X				
DREW, Sean	X				
FENNESSY, Eddie			X		
FITZGERALD, Brian	X				
FITZSIMONS, Pdraig	X				
FOX, Joe		X			
FRENCH, Noel					X
GALLAGHER, Michael			X		
GERAGHTY-SMITH, Deirdre	X				
GILROY, David	X				
GOLDEN, Trevor	X				
HARDING, Wayne	X				
JAMAL, Suzanne		X			



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KEOGAN, Geraldine	X				
KILLIAN, Nick	X				
LAWES, Alan			X		
MC CABE, Paul	X				
MC GINTY, Elaine	X				
MC KEE, Stephen	X				
MEADE, Paddy					X
MOORE, Ronan			X		
MURPHY, Maria		X			
O'CONNOR, Gerry		X			
O'NEILL, Aisling					X
O'REILLY, Damien	X				
REILLY, Sarah		X			
REILLY, Tommy	X				
SMITH, Amanda	X				
SOUHAN, Niamh					X
TOBIN, Alan		X			
TÓIBÍN, Emer	X				
TOLAN, Sharon					X
TOOLE, Gillian	X				
TORMEY, Conor	X				

Result: Cllr. Nick Killian – 22, Cllr. Sarah Reilly – 7, Cllr. Joe Bonner – 5, Abstain – 0, Absent – 6
Councillor Nick Killian was declared elected as Cathaoirleach of the Council and assumed the Chair.

The newly elected Cathaoirleach addressed the meeting, thanked his proposer and seconder and paid tribute to the out-going Cathaoirleach. He made reference to the concerns at a council meeting in 1902 and noted the similarities between then and now.

Looking to the year ahead, the Cathaoirleach identified a number of priorities. These included: housing including the provision of social and affordable homes; homelessness; dereliction within the towns; meeting the many community groups within the county; engaging with TY programmes to help young people to understand the role of the council and councillors and the proposed closure of the Emergency Dept. at Our Lady's Hospital, Navan. He thanked his family for their understanding and support. Finally, he thanked the staff of the Solstice Theatre for their hospitality during the past year and he looked forward to the council meetings taking place in Buvinda House later in the year.

The Chief Executive congratulated the new Cathaoirleach and expressed her commitment to work closely with him in the year ahead.

2 Election of the Leas Chathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the position of Leas Chathaoirleach.



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Councillor Mike Bray was proposed for the position of Leas Chathaoirleach on the proposal of **Councillor Sean Drew** and seconded by **Councillor Aisling Dempsey**.

Councillor Alan Tobin was proposed for the position of Leas Chathaoirleach on the proposal of **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Fox**.

Councillor Michael Gallagher was proposed for the position of Leas Chathaoirleach on the proposal of **Councillor Eddie Fennessy** and seconded by **Councillor Alan Lawes**.

A roll call vote was taken with the following result:

	Bray	Tobin	Gallagher	Abstain	Absent
ADENUGA, Yemi					X
BEHAN, Tom	X				
BONNER, Joseph			X		
BRAY, Mike	X				
CASSIDY, Eugene		X			
DEANE, Francis	X				
DEMPSEY, Aisling	X				
DREW, Sean	X				
FENNESSY, Eddie			X		
FITZGERALD, Brian	X				
FITZSIMONS, Pdraig	X				
FOX, Joe		X			
FRENCH, Noel					X
GALLAGHER, Michael			X		
GERAGHTY-SMITH, Deirdre	X				
GILROY, David	X				
GOLDEN, Trevor	X				
HARDING, Wayne	X				
JAMAL, Suzanne		X			
KEOGAN, Geraldine	X				
KILLIAN, Nick	X				
LAWES, Alan			X		
MC CABE, Paul	X				
MC GINTY, Elaine	X				
MC KEE, Stephen	X				
MEADE, Paddy		X			
MOORE, Ronan				X	
MURPHY, Maria		X			
O'CONNOR, Gerry		X			
O'NEILL, Aisling					X
O'REILLY, Damien	X				



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REILLY, Sarah		X			
REILLY, Tommy	X				
SMITH, Amanda	X				
SOUHAN, Niamh					X
TOBIN, Alan		X			
TÓIBÍN, Emer	X				
TOLAN, Sharon					X
TOOLE, Gillian				X	
TORMEY, Conor	X				

Result: Cllr. Mike Bray – 21, Cllr. Alan Tobin – 8, Cllr. Michael Gallagher – 4, Abstain – 2, Absent – 5

Councillor Mike Bray was declared elected as Leas Chathaoirleach of the Council.

The newly elected Leas Chathaoirleach addressed the meeting and thanked his proposer and seconder and the members for their support. He thanked his family for their continued support and paid tribute to his former deputy campaign manager the late Mr. Billy Growney and his mentor Ms. Liz McCormack. Finally, he thanked the out-going Cathaoirleach Councillor Drew and Leas-Chathaoirleach, Councillor Deane for their terms in office.

Councillors Sarah Reilly; Gerry O'Connor; Alan Tobin and **Damien O'Reilly** wished both the Cathaoirleach and Leas Chathaoirleach well in their roles over the next 12 months.

3 Agree Schedule of Meetings

It was noted that there was a conflict with the dates for the November meeting and it was agreed that the November meeting would take place on the 2nd Monday in November.

The following schedule of Council Meetings was approved:

Date	Type
July 4, 2022	Ordinary
September 5, 2022	Ordinary
October 3, 2022	Ordinary
November 14, 2022	Ordinary
November 28, 2022	Budget
December 5, 2022	Ordinary
February 13, 2023*	Ordinary
March 6, 2023	Ordinary
April 3, 2023	Ordinary
May 8, 2023**	Ordinary
June 12, 2023***	Annual

*February Meeting – February 6 is a bank holiday

**May Meeting – May 1 is a bank holiday

***June Meeting – June 5 is a bank holiday



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The meeting concluded at 11.55.