

**Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Policy Group held on
Monday, 4th January, 2016 at 2.00 p.m. in the Conference Room,
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

Present: Cllr. James Breen, Cathaoirleach presiding.
Cllrs. P. Hayes, G. Flynn, J. Cooney and R. Nagle.

Officials Present: Tom Coughlan, Chief Executive.
Michael McNamara, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. James Breen presided and wished all a happy and prosperous 2016.

1. Minutes of meeting held on 7th December, 2015.

The minutes of the meeting of the C.P.G. held on 7th December, 2015 were circulated with the agenda and were noted by the meeting.

2. January Council Meeting.

- The members noted the headed items listed and the notice of motions received for the January agenda.
- S.E.O., Corporate Services pointed out that there would be two presentations before the monthly meeting namely from Irish Water in relation to the proposed abstraction of water for the Eastern/Midlands area and from the Clare Age Friendly Board.

3. Any other business.

- The Chief Executive briefed the meeting on the current position at Springfield, Clonlara and referred to the visit there by Simon Coveney, T.D., Minister for Agriculture on Sunday the 3rd January. He also paid tribute to the members of Council staff, Fire Service and Civil Defence who have been working there practically around the clock since Christmas. The Cathaoirleach and members joined in complimenting all the above staff.
- There was a discussion on the letter handed in by the Chambers of Commerce at the December meeting of the Council and it was noted that the Chief Executive and Council officials would be meeting with the Chamber in response to the points raised

on that letter. The Chief Executive undertook to report to the next C.P.G. meeting on the outcome of those discussions. It was the view of the C.P.G. members that rate refunds should be concentrated for rate payers who pay up to €5,000 in rates annually as was previously agreed.

- Cllr. G. Flynn referred to the contract awarded recently for the Dog Warden Service and it was agreed that all the Council members would be informed of same with details of the new service provider.
- S.E.O., Corporate Services provided details of activity levels at Westbury in 2015 and referred to the costs of approximately €43,000 per annum to lease the building and associated costs. It was noted that the matter would be further discussed with the area members shortly.
- It was agreed that correspondence received from Cllr. C. Crowe in relation to Cumann na mBan and naming of a particular piece of infrastructure after a member of the Cumann should be referred to the Shannon Municipal District members for consideration.
- Cllr. G. Flynn referred to any implications arising from the decision taken by the Shannon Group Board not to renew Neil Pakey's contract. The Chief Executive referred to the Shannon Groups statement in this regard and stated he had nothing further to add.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

Michael McNamara,
Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services.

18th January, 2016.