

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Shannon Municipal District held on Tuesday 27th June, 2017 at 3.30pm in the Offices of the Municipal District, Town Hall, Shannon, Co. Clare

Present: Councillors John Crowe (Cathaoirleach), Gerard Flynn, Mike McKee, Pat McMahon, PJ Ryan, Cathal Crowe.

Liam Conneally Director of Service, Deirdre Ryan Meetings Administrator.

Apologies: Pat Dowling Chief Executive, Eugene O'Shea Senior Executive Engineer.

1. Election of Cathaoirleach for the next 12 Months.

The outgoing Cathaoirleach was thanked by all the members for his work for the district over the past twelve months. Liam Conneally paid tribute to Cllr John Crowe for his workmanship and can-do attitude.

Nominations for Cathaoirleach were invited. On the proposal of Cllr Gerard Flynn, seconded by Cllr Cathal Crowe, Cllr Mike McKee was unanimously elected as Cathaoirleach. Cllr McKee then took the chair for the remainder of the meeting, having been handed over the chain of office by Cllr John Crowe.

Cllr Mike McKee paid tribute to Cllr John Crowe and thanked all the members for their confidence in him and felt humbled by their support. He looked forward to working with them on the various challenges facing the district and the county as a whole. He spoke about the list of priorities facing Councillors in Clare, which is huge and much of it is determined by funding from central government. The housing crisis, roads, footpaths, sub-standard public lighting and other issues are brought to Councillors attention on a daily basis and they work with council officials to try to rectify them.

He also spoke about the many other issues affecting our communities such as child and adolescent mental health and the shortage of HSE staff to deal with these issues. Male suicide rates in Clare are above the national average and since 2006 there has been a 60% reduction in addiction counsellors in the county and he feels this is unacceptable.

He acknowledged that many issues are outside the members control but as leaders within their communities it is their responsibility to challenge the inequalities their communities face and hold those responsible to account.

He looked forward to the completion of Shannon Town Park, the garden and walkway at Cluain Airne, proposals for the wetlands, work being carried out on the Boreen, new playgrounds at Meelick and Westbury and positive movement on graveyard access.

In conclusion, he stated that if Councillors and officials work collectively on behalf of all the people in the Shannon Municipal District we can achieve a lot and he gave his commitment as the new Cathaoirleach to do just that.

The incoming Cathaoirleach was then welcomed and wished well during his tenure.

2. Election of Leas Cathaoirleach for the next 12 Months.

The Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the election of Leas Cathaoirleach. On the proposal of Cllr PJ Ryan, seconded by Cllr John Crowe, Cllr Gerard Flynn was unanimously elected as Leas Cathaoirleach.

The incoming Leas Cathaoirleach was welcomed by all the members, who wished him well during his tenure.

Cllr Gerard Flynn thanked his colleagues for their support and acknowledged that it is good to debate on issues. He pledged his support to the new Cathaoirleach and advised that he will continue to strive for the fair division of resources.

Liam Conneally congratulated and welcomed the new Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach and is looking forward to working with them in the coming year. He acknowledged that funding is always an issue but that we will work together as a team. He advised that he is there to facilitate and serve the Shannon Municipal District.

3. Approval to payment of allowances to the Cathaoirleach.

The payment of the allowances to the cathaoirleach for the term was proposed by Cllr Gerard Flynn, seconded by Cllr John Crowe and agreed.

4. Schedule of Meetings for the next 12 Months.

The schedule of meetings (attached) was agreed by all the members.

The members agreed the district should be acknowledged and should have representation on the various State and Semi-State Bodies by including the Cathaoirleach on their Boards.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed:

CLr Mike McKee
Cathaoirleach

Signed:

Meetings Administrator

Date:

11th July 2017