

## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Special Meeting***

***18<sup>th</sup> December 2024 @5.00p.m.***

***Buvinda House, Navan (and online via zoom)***

**Presiding:** An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Sharon Tolan

**Councillors Present:**

Councillors, Fionnán Blake, Joe Bonner, Mike Bray, Peter Caffrey, Eugene Cassidy, Pdraig Coffey, Francis Deane, Sean Drew, Yvonne Everard, Brian Fitzgerald, Pdraig Fitzsimons, Joe Fox, Noel French, David Gilroy, Wayne Harding, Suzanne Jamal, Geraldine Keogan, Nick Killian, Alan Lawes, Carol Lennon, Stephen McKee, Paddy Meade, Helen Meyer, Maria Murphy, Lindan Nelson-Murray, Gerry O'Connor, Caroline O'Reilly, Paul O'Rourke, Sarah Reilly, Amanda Smith. Emer Tóibín, and Conor Tormey.

**Councillors Present via Zoom:**

Councillors, Yemi Adenuga, Dave Boyne and Eddie Fennessy.

**Apologies:**

Councillors, Michael Gallagher, Ronan Moore, Alan Tobin and Maria White.

**Officials in attendance:**

**Chief Executive:** Kieran Kehoe

**Directors of Service:** Des Foley, Fiona Lawless, Barry Lynch, Dara McGowan, Martin Murray, Fiona Fallon, Pádraig Maguire.

**Meetings Administrator:** Elaine Daly

The Meetings Administrator noted that due to a technicality it was proposed to remove item 5.0, Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, from the agenda. This was unanimously agreed by the Elected Members.

**1.0 To fill the casual vacancy in the Membership of Meath County Council, following the election of Councillor Aisling Dempsey (Trim Municipal District) to Dáil Éireann, in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.**

The Meetings Administrator outlined the provisions of Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended. She noted that pursuant to S.19(3)(a) of the Act, a nomination for co-option to Meath County Council dated December 16, 2024, was received from Mr. Sean Dorgan, General Secretary of Fianna Fáil advising that Mr. Paul O'Rourke had been nominated as replacement for Councillor Aisling Dempsey and that written consent had been received from Mr. O'Rourke consenting to the co-option to the Local Authority, in accordance with Section 19(5) of the Act.

Mr. Paul O'Rourke was proposed by **Councillor Pdraig Coffey** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**. The Meetings Administrator deemed the casual vacancy to be filled.



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**Councillors Padraig Coffey and Wayne Harding** congratulated **Councillor Paul O'Rourke** and welcomed him to the meeting. **Councillor Paul O'Rourke** thanked the Elected Members for their support.

### **2.0 To fill the casual vacancy in the Membership of Meath County Council, following the election of Councillor Gillian Toole (Ratoath Municipal District) to Dáil Éireann, in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.**

The Meetings Administrator outlined the provisions of Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended. It was noted that Section 19(3)(b) of the Act states that *where the person causing the casual vacancy was a non-party candidate at his or her election to the Local Authority, the vacancy shall be filled by the co-option by the Local Authority of a person to fill the vacancy in accordance with such requirements and procedures as may be set out in its standing orders*. She further noted that Section 40.2 of the Council's Standing Orders sets out the procedure for co-option of a casual vacancy arising from the membership of the Council of a non-party Councillor. It was noted that the Meetings Administrator had received a sealed envelope from Councillor Gillian Toole on November 29, 2024. Following Councillor Toole's election to Dáil Éireann, the envelope was opened in the presence of the Director of Services for Corporate Affairs and Governance and the Chief Executive. The envelope contained a nomination form from Cllr. Toole nominating Ms. Yvonne Everard as co-optee, as well as a letter of consent and declaration of eligibility from the co-optee.

Ms. Yvonne Everard was proposed by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald** and seconded by **Councillor Carol Lennon**. The Meetings Administrator deemed the casual vacancy to be filled.

**Councillors Brian Fitzgerald and Carol Lennon** congratulated **Councillor Yvonne Everard** and welcomed her to the meeting. **Councillor Yvonne Everard** thanked the Elected Members for their support.

### **3.0 To appoint a replacement Councillor to the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism EU Affairs and Rural Regeneration SPC following the election of former Councillor Aisling Dempsey to Dáil Éireann.**

As proposed by **Councillor Wayne Harding**, seconded by **Councillor Padraig Fitzsimons** and unanimously agreed by the Elected Members, **Councillor Paul O'Rourke** was appointed to the Economic Development, Enterprise, Tourism EU Affairs and Rural Regeneration SPC.

### **4.0 To appoint a replacement Councillor to the Community & Cultural Development and Gaeltacht Affairs SPC following the election of former Councillor Gillian Toole to Dáil Éireann.**

As proposed by **Councillor Brian Fitzgerald**, seconded by **Councillor Geraldine Keogan** and unanimously agreed by the Elected Members, **Councillor Yvonne Everard** was appointed to the Community & Cultural Development and Gaeltacht Affairs SPC.



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**5.0 Disposal of Land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001**

Removed from the agenda as set out above.

The meeting concluded 5.30pm.