MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF ANNUAL MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, LIMERICK ROAD,
NENAGH AT 10.00 AM ON 23RD JUNE 2016

Present: Cllrs. Fiona Boufield, Dr. Phyll Bugler, John Carroll, Ger Darcy, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, Séamus Morris, Michael O’ Meara, Mattie Ryan.

Also Present: Mr. Karl Cashen, Director of Services, Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator, Mr. Peter Fee, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer and Lorraine Treacy, Staff Officer

Welcome: Cllr. G. Darcy welcomed all present to the Annual Meeting of the Nenagh Municipal District.

He thanked all the members for their co-operation and help over the last year. He also thanked the staff of the Municipal District and in particular Mr. Marcus O’ Connor and Ms. Rosemary Joyce for their assistance and guidance. He also thanked the members of the press.

He went on to congratulate the Irish Soccer Team for their great win in the European Championship the previous evening and also congratulated the Terryglass Community for its success in Ireland’s Best Kept Town Competition 2016. He said Terryglass was a village who have now won two awards at national level and he was delighted for the community there.

Cllr. Darcy proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Paddy Walsh, Ballycraggan. He said he was a generation ahead of his time in relation to entrepreneurship.

Cllr. S. Morris congratulated the GAA fraternity in relation to the success of the Féile na nGael Competition and said that it was a great event for sports tourism.

Cllr. G. Darcy referred to his tenure in office and in particular to a number of events that took place namely; the County Fleadh in Cloughjordan which he said was a huge success, the launch of the Beara Breifne Way, which has

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brought a lot of revenue to the District, the visit of the Canadian Ambassador to Terryglass, the Municipal District Awards Ceremony held in November, the Visit Nenagh Classic, the National AGM of Macra na Feirme, the launch of the parish plan in Lorrha and the recent Joint Civic Reception for the under 17 Nenagh AFC Soccer Team, Fr. Dan Woods, Sinead Meagher, Colm Slattery and Keelan McGrath. He said there was no doubt that the highlight of the year was the 1916 Commemorative events in Cloughjordan and in particular the unveiling of the Thomas MacDonagh Statue, the parade and the Easter events.

He went on to say that he was very encouraged by the projects that got the green light under the Lough Derg Stimulus Project and said that, going forward, it was important that the area of Lower Ormond received a share of the funding.

Referring to the Bord Gáis works, he said that this was a major piece of infrastructure for the town of Nenagh. He acknowledged that it is causing disruption but said it will have huge benefits and Nenagh will be a better town when the project is finished. He also referred to the Surface Water Drainage Scheme in Borrisokane and said he looked forward to the streetscape enhancement works. He went on to refer to the two major job announcements this year i.e. First Data in Nenagh and the Silvermines Hydro-electrical power plant which will benefit both the Lower & Upper Ormond areas.

Cllr. Darcy concluded by saying that he noted two problems for the Nenagh Municipal District going forward namely; funding for rural roads and flooding. He thanked the members and the staff again and said it had been a busy but enjoyable year.

Cllr. J. Hannigan congratulated Cllr. Darcy on his year in office and on the manner in which he executed the position. He said that he had brought his experience into play.

Cllr. M. O’ Meara said that Cllr. Darcy’s experience in the “Chair” was well to be seen and said that he always approached everything in a pragmatic way. He said that interaction with the community was very important and acknowledged the numerous visits to rural communities from Council officials throughout the year. He said he would like to see this approach continuing.

Cllr. J. Carroll complimented Cllr. Darcy’s stewardship, saying that he was a good Cathaoirleach. He added that of notable success was the Fleadh Cheoil and the 1916 Commemorations in Cloughjordan.
Cllr. S. Morris said that Cllr. Darcy has a very steady hand and his experience was vitally important. He said that the Nenagh Municipal District was working very well and that there was good interaction between the Council and Communities.

Cllr. P. Bugler congratulated Cllr. Darcy who she said was very fair. She said it had been a busy year particularly with the 1916 Comemorations. She also acknowledged that community involvement was very important and the bottom up approach always brings dividends.

Cllr. M. Ryan complimented Cllr. Darcy on a great year noting in particular the Fleadh and the 1916 Comemorations. He agreed on the importance of communicating with communities.

Cllr. H. McGrath thanked Cllr. Darcy for attending the many events in the District throughout the year. He said Cllr. Darcy always made himself available.

Referring to the Bord Gáis works being carried out in Nenagh, Cllr. H. McGrath said that it was important to get out the message that Nenagh was still open for business. He said now that the road at the Stafford Street Junction was re-opened, it would bring the traffic closer to the town and relieve the pressure in other areas. He asked the people in the surrounding areas to support the businesses in Nenagh. He referred to a street event that was proposed for every Saturday in August in the lead up to the Nenagh Castle Fest which will take place on 27th August.

Referring to the flooding issue Cllr. H. McGrath said that last year there were statements blaming EU Regulations and that it was important that EU Regulations were nct being made a political football. There was no cohesion and no one body dealing with it. Matters need to be sorted out during the summer and have one agency dealing with it to avoid facing into more flooding during the winter.

Cllr. F. Bonfield complimented Cllr. Darcy on a fantastic year. She referred to the 1916 Commemorations Celebrations which were well attended and thanked Cllr. Darcy for all his work throughout the year.

Cllr. G. Darcy thanked the Leas-Chathaoirleach, Joe Hannigan and also congratulated all the Tidy Towns Committees in the Nenagh District for their excellent results in the 2016 Tidy Towns Competition.

Cllr. J. Carroll proposed Cllr. P. Bugler as the new Cathaoirleach of the

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Nenagh Municipal District. He said that it was her fourth term as an elected representative and she had been very diligent and never failed to speak her mind. He said that she would make an excellent Cathaoirleach. Cllr. F. Bonfield seconded the proposal.

Cllr. S. Morris said that he was against the “Pact System” as it showed disrespect to the other four Councillors but he said he believes that the Nenagh Municipal District is working and he would not oppose the proposal out of respect to the Councillors and Staff.

Cllr. P. Bugler said that it was a great privilege and an honour to be elected as Cathaoirleach of the Nenagh Municipal District. She thanked her proposer and seconder and said she looked forward to working with her fellow Councillors to promote the Nenagh District. She said her main priorities included the promotion of tourism through the Butler Trail, the Beara Breffini Way, Lough Derg and Nenagh Castle. She said she was looking forward to the development of the Canoe Trail. Another project she said she would like to pursue is the creation of a Garden Route similar to the one in South Africa. She went on to say that it was important for the Nenagh Municipal District to work with Waterways Ireland and Inland Fisheries in order to promote water festivals which would re-vitalise the rural villages. She said she would work closely with the Chamber of Commerce and festival committees to have more vibrant towns and villages. She said that Tidy Towns Committees and Tourism work hand in hand and she congratulated Terryglass Tidy Towns Committee on its recent success in Ireland’s Best Kept Town Competition 2016. She concluded by saying roads, flooding and Taking in Charge would also be high on her agenda and she looked forward to working with her fellow Councillors, staff and the press.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. P. Bugler and resolved that Cllr. M. O’ Meara be elected as Leas Chathaoirleach.

Cllr. P. Bugler congratulated Cllr. M. O’ Meara and said that she looked forward to working with him.

Cllr. M. O’ Meara congratulated Cllr. P. Bugler. He said that it is often said that if you want a job done ask a busy person and that Cllr. Bugler was this kind of person. He said Cllr. Bugler was an extremely passionate person with excellent intelligence who has achieved a lot in her academic career.

Cllr. G. Darcy congratulated Cllr. Bugler saying that she will bring energy and a high work ethic to the “Chair” He referred to Cllr. Bugler’s achievements in Ballina and to her commitment to the local community there. He said that it

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will be a very busy year ahead and he wished her well in the position. He also congratulated Cllr. M. O’Meara.

Cllr. M. Ryan congratulated Cllr. Bugler and said that he looked forward to working with her.

Cllr. S. Morris extended his best wishes to Cllr. Bugler. He said it was a massive task but that the Municipal District was working well and he would assist her in any way that he could.

Cllr. H. McGrath wished Cllr. Bugler well in her new position. He said Cllr. Bugler will have great energy and he knows that she will be a Cathaoirleach for the entire District and requested that she meet with the Nenagh & District Chamber of Commerce.

Cllr. J. Hannigan extended his best wishes to Cllr. Bugler and said that she was a person that would bring different dimensions to the role. He also wished Cllr. O’Meara the best of luck in his new role.

Cllr. M. Ryan also extended his best wishes to Cllr. O’Meara.

Cllr. J. Carroll said that it was important to note that there was a good backroom team in the District and thanked Ms. R. Joyce and her staff for all their help and assistance. He said he would also like to compliment the press for their reasonable and fair reporting.

Cllr. P. Bugler said that she would be a Cathaoirleach for the entire District and confirmed that she would meet with the Chamber of Commerce. She emphasised that that there was a need to get away from the way things were always done and that no idea is “off the wall”. She said that she will visit all communities and looked forward to a hard working year ahead.

This concluded the business of the Meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify.

Signed: [Signature]
Cllr. Phyll Bugler
Cathaoirleach

Date: 21/7/16

Signed: [Signature]
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 21/7/16

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