

Pin the Chair: Cllr. Kevin O'Meara

Members Present: Cllr. Kieran Bourke, Cllr. David Dunne, Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald.

Apologies

In Attendance: Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive;
Mr Brian Beck, A/Director of Services;
Ms Marie O'Gorman, District Administrator;
Mr Willie Corby, District Engineer;
Ms Liz. McGrath, Staff Officer.

1.0 Welcome

Item 1.1.

Summons & Prayer: The summons was taken as read.

Item 1.2.

Suspension of Standing Orders: On the proposal of Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. I. Goldsboro, it was resolved to suspend standing orders to permit conduct of the meeting via ZOOM.

Item. 2.1.

Election of Cathaoirleach: In welcoming attendees, the outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. K. O'Meara, spoke of the fast pace of the past year of his tenure against the background of the Covid pandemic and the manner in which business was conducted efficiently and effectively in spite of the challenges presented.

He thanked the management and staff for their work in the background and for the support of his elected colleagues in delivery for the District and commended the delivery of the Fethard Town Park as a case in point.

The outgoing Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach for 2021/2022.

It was proposed by Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, and seconded by Cllr. David Dunne that Cllr. M. Fitzgerald be elected Cathaoirleach for the incoming term.

As there were no other nominations, Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald was deemed elected.

All present congratulated Cllr. Fitzgerald on his election.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, on assuming the chair, thanked his proposer and seconder and the outgoing Cathaoirleach and commended him on the manner in which he conducted business throughout the year in a fair and balanced matter in a year that was not easy and presented by such challenges.

He spoke of the honour bestowed on him as the youngest Cathaoirleach in the District and of the pride of his family and friends in the Drangan-Cloneen area.

He commended the great bond that existed between the elected members and staff which he described as a great dynamic which he hoped to maintain.

Councillor Fitzgerald stated that his first duty as Cathaoirleach would be write to An Taoiseach and the Minister for Mental Health and Older Persons in commemoration of his late cousin, lost to suicide in 2016, which had a profound effect on him. His message would emphasise the importance of people talking and of the simple act of listening and he would urge any person - young or old- who was struggling to open up and seek help.

The Cathaoirleach-elect also spoke of his intention to organised a meeting of residents and businesses in Grangemockler in relation to the proposed N76 roadworks project.

Each of the Councillors in turn congratulated the Cathaoirleach-elect on his appointment and assured him of their support going forward.

The Chief Executive, Mr. Joe MacGrath joined in congratulating the Cathaoirleach and wished him well in

progressing an ambitious programme of work with serious money to be invested in the District under the guidance of Brian Beck and his team. He stated that it was most refreshing to see the kind of cohesion that obtained in the District and he commended the Cathaoirleach on his opening message, coming as it was from a very personal base. He looked forward to a productive year and to working with each and every one present.

Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services joined in the congratulations and assured him of his full support and that of his team.

Item 2.2.

Election of

Leas-

Chathaoirleach:

The outgoing Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the position of Leas-Chathaoirleach for 2021/2022.

It was proposed by Cllr. Kieran Bourke, and seconded by Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro that Cllr. David Dunne be elected Leas-Chathaoirleach for the incoming term.

As there were no other nominations, Cllr. David Dunne was deemed elected.

In accepting his nomination and election, Councillor David Dunne expressed this sincere thanks to his proposer whom he described as a close ally despite political differences; and to his seconder and his fellow Councillors, stating that he was delighted to accept the honour. He committed to assisting Councillor Fitzgerald throughout his term and to represent everybody equally.

The Councillors in turn extended their congratulations to Cllr. Dunne and assured of their ongoing support in the coming year.

The Chief Executive Mr. Joe MacGrath also joined with Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services in extending warm congratulations on their own behalf and on behalf of the team and assured him of their support in his role.

Item 3.1.

Schedule of Meetings for 2021/2022:

A draft schedule of meetings for the following year, was circulated and considered by the Councillors. The District Administrator indicated that it did not take account of the

prevailing pandemic conditions such that the Council meetings would require suspension of standing orders to continue to transact business through the medium of ZOOM, but would form the basis of agreed dates.

The meetings schedule as circulated was proposed for adoption by Councillor Imelda Goldsboro, seconded by Councillor M. Fitzgerald and agreed unanimously.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



District Administrator



Cathaoirleach

21 JULY 2021

Date