

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 28th JUNE, 2017, AT 10.00 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor J. Sheahan, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Collins, Foley and Scanlan.

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Browne and Galvin.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Service Operations (Mr. G. Daly), Senior Executive Engineer, Municipal District (Mr. B. Noonan), Meetings Administrator (Ms. T. Knox).

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Councillor Sheahan, opened the Meeting by summarising his year as Cathaoirleach and thanked staff for their assistance throughout the year. Highlights of the year, he said, included the purchase of Fuller's Folly, Public Realm Plan for Glin, Launch of Shannon Estuary Way in Glin, renaming of Great Southern Trail to the Great Southern Greenway Limerick, holding of recent Meeting in Desmond Hall, GOK WAN fashion event, job announcements for the District, meeting with counterparts from Listowel etc. He thanked the Members for their support and participation at Meetings. He stated that he very much enjoyed the year which had been busy and challenging given the expanded role of the Municipal District. In conclusion, he wished the very best of luck to the incoming Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach, assuring them of his full support.

The Director paid tribute to Councillor Sheahan for the excellent manner in which he had conducted the Meetings and referred to the very significant role of the Municipal District which had extended beyond operational matters.

1. Election of Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District

The outgoing Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the Office of Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District for the coming year.

Proposed by Councillor Foley;
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;

"That, Councillor Michael Collins be appointed Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Newcastle West to hold office to the next Annual Meeting or until his successor is appointed."

As there were no other nominations, the outgoing Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Collins elected as Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District and offered him his congratulations and best wishes for the coming year.

On taking the Chair, Councillor Collins thanked his Proposer and Seconder and said that he was looking forward to working with all the Members, Management and staff in the coming year. He said it was a very exciting time to be Cathaoirleach, the role had changed with the expanded role of the District and the role was now more prominent. For the year ahead, he said he would like to see the establishment of a Christmas Market and suggested Desmond Hall as a suitable location. He added that he hoped to work closely with businesses and community groups to make it a reality. He also said he would like to see a new look for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Councillor Collins highlighted the significant investment in the District and made reference to the purchase of land for the Regional Athletics Hub, purchase of Fuller's Folly for a Tourist Office and the ring-fencing of funds for the Great Southern Greenway. He also said that it was hoped to receive a report shortly in relation to the proposed swimming pool. Another project which, he said, he hoped to advance was the nurturing of a special relationship between Newcastle West and the Polish town of Peplin, given the large Polish population in Newcastle West. He added that he was looking forward to the completion of a Traffic Management Plan for Abbeyfeale and the launch of the Newcastle West 5-Year Strategic Plan. In conclusion, he extended an invitation to staff of the Communications and Marketing/Tourism Departments to attend the September Meeting of the District so that the Members could outline their plans to them for the year ahead.

2. Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District

The Cathaoirleach then invited nominations for the office of Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District for the coming year.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan;
Seconded by Councillor Scanlan;

"That, Councillor Francis Foley be appointed Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Newcastle West to hold office to the next Annual Meeting or until his successor is appointed."

As there were no other nominations, the Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Foley elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District. He offered him his congratulations and best wishes for the coming year.

The incoming Leas-Chathaoirleach congratulated Councillor Collins on being elected Cathaoirleach. He thanked his Proposer and Seconder and all the Members for their support.

The Members thanked the outgoing Cathaoirleach, Councillor Sheahan, for all his hard work in the course of the previous 12 months. They also thanked the outgoing Leas-Chathaoirleach, Councillor Galvin. They wished Councillors Collins and Foley the very best for their respective terms of office and assured them of their full support.

The Director congratulated the incoming Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach on their election and said that he was looking forward to working with them in the coming year to close out some of the strategic projects which would have a lasting legacy in the District.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:
