

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT JOINT POLICING SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CAPPAMORE-KILMALLOCK HELD IN ÁRAS MAINCHÍN SEOIGHE, MILLMOUNT, KILMALLOCK, CO. LIMERICK, ON THURSDAY, 29TH MARCH, 2018, AT 3.00 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor G. Mitchell, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Donegan, Gleeson, Ryan, Sheehy and Teefy.

An apology for his inability to attend was received from Councillor O'Donnell.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director Support Services-Finance, Corporate, HR & ICT (Mr S. Coughlan), A/Senior Executive Engineer Cappamore-Kilmallock (Mr. B. Murphy), Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy).

Also in attendance: Acting Superintendent An Garda Síochána Mr. Dermot O'Connor, Public Participation Network (PPN) Nominee Mr. Thomas O'Dwyer.

Councillor Mitchell noted that this was the first Meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District Joint Policing Sub-Committee and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Policing Issues in the District

The Acting Superintendent gave an update on policing issues within the District and he outlined some statistics for the Joint Policing Sub Committee for the period 1st January to 29th March 2018:

- 47 recorded burglaries which was an increase of 21 during the same period in 2017;
- The majority of burglaries (31) occurred at private homes while 16 happened at commercial premises;
- 1 assault recorded compared with 3 during the same period in 2017;
- 9 cases of criminal damage compared with 16 during the same period in 2017;
- 9 public order offences compared with 12 during the same period in 2017;
- 47 traffic collisions compared with 53 during the same period in 2017;

The Acting Superintendent also confirmed that additional resources had been deployed and targeted patrols are being carried out across the District as part of Operation Portable which was a Garda operation to address the increase in burglary crimes this year. Because of

Operation Portable, the Gardaí had six separate individuals who were arrested and prosecuted in relation to burglary offences and they were actively seeking to question several others as well.

The Members acknowledged the work done by An Garda Síochána in the District and welcomed the update on policing within the District. They expressed concern about criminals who were very mobile and who travelled into areas to commit burglaries and they welcomed the details about Operation Portable which was being deployed by An Garda Síochána to address the issue of burglaries in the District.

There was also a discussion about actual Garda numbers in the District, the number of vehicles marked and unmarked that were deployed and the how the Garda roster system operated. The Members agreed that additional Garda resources should be provided, given that the District size was equivalent to the size of County Louth, and noted that the recent introduction of CCTV in the County would be an added resource to crime prevention measures.

The Members expressed their congratulations to former Chief Superintendent Dave Sheahan on his appointment to Assistant Commissioner. The Members also expressed their frustration at the delay in appointing a full-time Superintendent to the District and while they complimented the Acting Superintendent on his presentation and his work overall within the District, they stressed the importance of having a Superintendent permanently appointed in the District as soon as possible.

There was a query raised in relation to the appointment of a dedicated Community Garda to Kilmallock Town. The Acting Superintendent outlined the Community Policing plans in the District, which included a Text Alert scheme for households, a proposed new Business Text scheme, as well as a Garda Schools Programme.

He welcomed the fact that the community in Kilmallock had engaged with An Garda Síochána and explained that every member of An Garda Síochána does a certain amount of community policing support duties in their role with An Garda Síochána. He explained that there was a resourcing issue to be considered in deploying a dedicated Community Garda in Kilmallock but that the issue would be kept under review in the context of any possible additional Garda resources coming into the District in the future.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Date:
