

**MINUTES OF THE MAY MONTHLY MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> OF MAY 2014**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Councillors	Mary Sweeney	In the Chair
		Rotimi Adebari	William Aird
		John Bonham	Patrick Bracken
		Ben Brennan	Ray Cribbin
		James Daly	James Deegan
		Lisa Delaney	John Joe Fennelly
		Catherine Fitzgerald	Padraig Fleming
		David Goodwin	John King
		Michael Lalor	Jerry Lodge
		Seamus McDonald	Paul Mitchell
		John Moran	Tom Mulhall
		Kathleen O' Brien	Brendan Phelan
		Martin Phelan	Mary Sweeney
		Caroline Dwane Stanley	

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Messers Peter Carey, County Manager, Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services, Gerry Murphy, Head of Finance, Ms. Anna Marie Delaney, Director of Services, Ms. Josephine Kavanagh, Administrative Officer & Ms. Michelle McCormack, Executive Secretary.

**44. VOTE OF SYMPATHY**

On the proposition of the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney, the Members unanimously agreed to pass a Vote of Sympathy to Councillor David Goodwin on the recent death of his sister, Ms. Sylvia Leech, Shanbeg, Rosenallis, Co. Laois.

**45. BEST WISHES**

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney extended a vote of congratulations to Deputy Charles Flanagan, T.D. who has been appointed Minister for Children & Youth Affairs. The Members also congratulated Deputy Flanagan on his appointment. The County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey on behalf of the Management and Staff of Laois County Council joined the Members in congratulating Deputy Flanagan on his appointment as Minister for Children & Youth Affairs.

**46. WELCOME**

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney welcomed to the Chamber Ms. Sandra Doyle from the Portlaoise Adult Education Centre with a group of teachers and adult learners from the UK, France, Spain, Germany and Greece.

The Members were advised that the group are involved in a Grundtvig European Learning Partnership project entitled 'How to Educate Learners through Peer Mentoring'. The aim of the project is to share information, knowledge and experience with similar educational institutions providing second chance education to adults throughout Europe. Each Country is focusing on a particular sub-theme with Ireland focusing on 'Active Citizenship through Peer-Mentoring'.

**47. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 28<sup>TH</sup> OF APRIL 2014**

On the proposition of Councillor Ray Cribbin seconded by Councillor Michael Lalor, the Minutes of the April meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2014 were confirmed as circulated.

**48. REPORTS ON SPC MEETINGS HELD IN MARCH 2014**

The Members were circulated with a copy of the report on the Community, Economic Development, Cultural, Heritage, Sport & County Promotion SPC meeting held in Donaghmore Famine Workhouse Museum on Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2014 which were noted by the Members.

**49. DISPOSAL OF LAND UNDER SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 2001**

**(a) DISPOSAL OF 0.1054 HECTARES OF LAND AT ROCKVIEW, PORTLAOISE**

On the proposition of Councillor William Aird seconded by Councillor Kathleen O' Brien the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 0.1054 hectares of land at Rockview, Portlaoise in the townland of Ballydavis for a consideration of €300.00

**(b) DISPOSAL OF 285M2 OF LAND ADJACENT TO NO. 13 CHURCHVIEW CLOSE, ARD EDMOND, CASTLETOWN**

On the proposition of Councillor John King seconded by Councillor Martin Phelan, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 285 m2 of land adjacent to No.13 Churchview Close, Ard Edmond, Castletown in the townland of Churchfield for a consideration of €100.00

**(c) DISPOSAL OF 2.464 HECTARES OF LAND AT CAMROSS, PORTLAOISE**

On the proposition of Councillor Michael Lalor seconded by Councillor John Joe Fennelly, the Members unanimously agreed to the disposal of 2.464 hectares of land at Camross, Portlaoise, Co. Laois in the townland of Longford for a consideration of €100,000.

#### **50. CONFIRM DATE FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL**

On the proposition of Councillor Ray Cribbin seconded by Councillor Paul Mitchell, the Members unanimously agreed that the Annual General Meeting of Laois County Council would take place on Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 2.30 p.m. in accordance with Part 7 (Section 57) of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

#### **51. UPDATE ON PROGRAMME OF WORKS JUNE 2009 – 2014**

The Members were given a detailed presentation by each Director of Services on the progress made and highlights over the last 5 years over each of the areas. The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney complimented the Management & Staff of Laois County Council on the progress made and the very comprehensive presentation. The County Manager thanked the Director of Services for the presentation and paid tribute to the Members on their collaborative approach and co-operation. The County Manager also paid tribute to all staff both indoor and outdoor on delivering efficiencies and also to the local community. It was noted that the Council provide over 100 services across the board.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney also paid tribute to Mr. Michael Scully, Photographer and to the Members of the Media for their attendance at meetings over the last five years.

#### **52. PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING MEMBERS OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney made a presentation to the following Members of Laois County Council who were retiring in May 2014:-

- Councillor Martin Phelan on 23 years service with Laois County Council
- Councillor James Deegan on 20 years service with Laois County Council
- Councillor John Bonham on 15 years service with Laois County Council
- Councillor Paul Mitchell on 10 years service with Laois County Council

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mary Sweeney paid tribute to each outgoing Member and thanked them for their contribution to Laois County Council and in doing so

wished them good health in their retirements. The County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey also joined with the Cathaoirleach in the good wishes being extended to the retiring Members.

The Members paid their own tributes to each of the retiring Councillors and the retiring Councillors reflected on their service with Laois County Council.

Both the Cathaoirleach & the County Manager wished all the Members going forward in the forthcoming local elections scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2014 every good wish.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**CERTIFIED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE  
AFFAIRS**