

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL  
HELD IN ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, PORTLAOISE ON THE 24<sup>TH</sup> OF JUNE 2013**

**PRESENT: Councillors**

Paul Mitchell	In the Chair
William Aird	John Bonham
James Daly	Mary Sweeney
Paddy Bracken	Ben Brennan
Ray Cribbin	James Deegan
John Joe Fennelly	Catherine Fitzgerald
Padraig Fleming	David Goodwin
Alan Hand	John King
Michael Lalor	Jerry Lodge
Seamus McDonald	Lisa Delaney
John Moran	Tom Mulhall
Kathleen O' Brien	Brendan Phelan
Martin Phelan	

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Michael Lalor Rotimi Adebari

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**68. PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING CATHAOIRLEACH**

Mr. Paul Mitchell Cathaoirleach welcomed the County Manager, Members of Laois County Council and Guests to the Council Chamber for the Annual General Meeting of Laois County Council and reflected on his term of office and highlights during his time as Cathaoirleach. The Cathaoirleach expressed thanks to Mr. Peter Carey, County Manager, Management & Staff at Áras an Chontae, Members of Laois County Council, Members of the Press and in particular his family members for their support during 2012/2013.

The Members individually thanked the Cathaoirleach and congratulated him on his year in the Chair. The County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey, County Manager, on behalf of Management & Staff also joined with the Members in paying tribute to the Cathaoirleach.

Mr. Peter Carey, County Manager made a formal presentation to Mr. Paul Mitchell, the outgoing Cathaoirleach of a bound book of minutes of meetings during his term as Cathaoirleach, together with a photo album of events attended.

## 69. ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH

It was proposed by Councillor James Deegan and seconded by Councillor Kathleen O' Brien :

*“That Councillor Mary Sweeney be appointed Cathaoirleach for the coming year”*

It was proposed by Councillor Seamus McDonald and seconded by Councillor Ray Cribbin:

*“That Councillor Jerry Lodge be appointed Cathaoirleach for the coming year”*

A roll call vote was taken which resulted as follows:-

COUNCILLOR		FOR COUNCILLOR SWEENEY	FOR COUNCILLOR LODGE	ABSENT
FIRST NAME	SURNAME			
Rotimi	ADEBARI			✓
Willie	AIRD	✓		
John	BONHAM	✓		
Paddy	BRACKEN		✓	
Ben	BRENNAN	✓		
Raymond	CRIBBIN		✓	
James	DALY	✓		
James	DEEGAN	✓		
Lisa	DELANEY	✓		
John Joe	FENNELLY		✓	
Catherine	FITZGERALD		✓	
Padraig	FLEMING		✓	
David	GOODWIN	✓		
Alan	HAND		✓	
John	KING	✓		
Michael	LALOR			✓
Jerry	LODGE		✓	
Seamus	MCDONALD		✓	
Paul	MITCHELL	✓		
John Robert	MORAN	✓		
Tom	MULHALL	✓		
Kathleen	O'BRIEN	✓		
Brendan	PHELAN		✓	
Martin	PHELAN	✓		
Mary	SWEENEY	✓		

As a result of the Roll Call Vote, there was 14 votes in favour of Councillor Mary Sweeney and 9 votes in favour of Councillor Jerry Lodge, with two Councillors absent. Councillor Mary Sweeney having been elected thanked her proposer and seconder and all her colleagues who supported her and she then took the Chair.

Councillor Sweeney commiserated with Councillor Jerry Lodge who thanked his proposer and seconder and congratulated Councillor Mary Sweeney. Councillor Alan Hand on behalf of his group congratulated Councillor Sweeney on her election.

The County Manager Mr. Peter Carey, on behalf of the Management and staff at Áras an Chontae extended congratulations to Councillor Sweeney on her election as Cathaoirleach of Laois County Council for 2013/2014 and wished her well in her term.

## 70. ELECTION OF LEAS- CATHAOIRLEACH

It was proposed by Councillor John Bonham and seconded by Councillor John King

*“That Councillor Martin Phelan be appointed Leas-Cathaoirleach for the coming year”*

Councillor Brendan Phelan indicated that his group would not be making a counter proposal as this was Councillor Martin Phelan's last year with Laois County Council.

Councillor Martin Phelan thanked his proposer and seconder and the Fianna Fail group for their kind gesture of goodwill.

This concluded the business of the meeting

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

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

