

**MINUTES OF FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF ROSCOMMON
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COURTHOUSE, ROSCOMMON, ON FRIDAY THE 6th JUNE, 2014
AT 2.15 P.M.**

PRESENT **Councillor John Cummins, Cathaoirleach** **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: V. Byrne I. Connaughton D. Connolly M. Creaton
 N. Dineen R. Doherty L. Fallon P. Fitzmaurice
 M. Hopkins P. Kilduff J. Keogh O. Leyden
 M. Mulligan E. Murphy J. Naughten K. Shanagher
 T. Ward.

OFFICIALS: Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive.
 Majella Hunt, Director of Services.
 Kathleen Martin, Director of Services
 Martin Lydon, Head of Finance & Planning
 John O'Rourke, A/ Director of Services.
 Fiona ni Chuinn, Meetings Administrator.

Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive welcomed all the newly elected and existing Councillors to their first Council Meeting. He congratulated them on their election and welcomed family and friends of the members, members of the public and the media. He stressed that the next couple of months is going to be very busy for the Cathaoirleach and all the members and he hoped that everyone could work together for the betterment of County Roscommon

The Chief Executive paid tribute to outgoing members namely Councillors Sean Beirne, Martin Connaughton, Jimmy Cogan, Liam Callaghan, Tom Crosby, Ernie Keenan, Jimmy Kenny, Gerry Garvey, Ollie Moore, Paula McNamara and John Murphy and thanked them for their very valuable contribution during their term as councillors and wished them well in the future. He also thanked the Cathaoirligh/Mayors who have served this county over the last five years namely Councillors Ward, Flanagan, Keenan, Eugene Murphy, Crosby and Connaughton.

In accordance with Schedule 10 (4) of the Local Government Act, 2001 the Meetings Administrator read out the names of the persons duly elected as members of the Local Authority.

73.14. ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH:

The Chief Executive invited proposals for the election of Cathaoirleach.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Murphy
 SECONDED by Councillor Ward
That Councillor John Cummins be elected Cathaoirleach.

As there was no other nomination for the office of Cathaoirleach, Councillor John Cummins was declared the elected Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council for the coming year

At this stage Councillor Cummins assumed the position of Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Cummins then addressed the meeting and thanked his proposer and seconder. He congratulated the members that were re-elected and paid tribute to the outgoing members and to the councillors who did not get re-elected. He welcomed the new members Councillors Connaughton, Dineen, Hopkins and Shanagher to their first meeting of the Council and he looked forward to working with all the members for the betterment and improvement of the county under the alliance with Independent Councillors Dineen, Shanagher and Ward.

Councillor Cummins continued that the alliance commits to the reduction in rates for businesses in the county by 10 per cent over the next five years i.e. 2 per cent in each budget. It is also hoped to take additional measures to endeavour to attract new investors into the county as there is a significant leakage of business out of County Roscommon and it is hoped to set up a committee within the Council with a small budget to advertise the good that can be achieved by setting up business in County Roscommon.

The other issue facing this county at present is the water crisis. Over one-third of the population are affected by 'boil water' notices including the Strokestown, Athlone, Boyle and Castlerea areas and it has to be a priority of the Council and the executive to ensure that the water situation that exists in Roscommon is resolved as soon as possible.

It is a radically changed Council Chamber here today because of the absence of long serving representatives who have lost their seats like Sean Beirne, Michael McGreal, Ollie Moore, Gerry Garvey, Tom Crosby and that is a huge loss to this Council.

Councillor Cummins concluded by thanking his family and friends and all who helped him during his election campaign and he looked forward to working with all the executive and members over the coming year for the betterment of the county.

74.14. ELECTION OF LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH:

The Cathaoirleach invited proposals for the election of Leas-Cathaoirleach.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

That Councillor Ivan Connaughton be elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.

As there was no other nomination for the office of Leas-Cathaoirleach, Councillor Ivan Connaughton was declared the elected Leas-Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council for the coming year

Councillor Connaughton thanked his proposer and seconder. He said he was happy to accept this prestigious job and looked forward to working with members on both sides of the house

and to do everything possible to bring about our alliance programme in the coming years. He highlighted issues of most concern to him -

- The issue of drinking water and advocated a 'No Charge Policy' to householders where water is unfit for human consumption.
- The need to keep the fight alive for Roscommon Hospital services.
- Address the issue of unfinished estates and flooding.

He concluded by thanking his family, supporters and campaign team for their hard work and commitment during the election campaign.

Members from both sides of the house congratulated Councillor Cummins and Councillor Connaughton and wished them well in their roles as Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach for the coming year and assured them of their support and co-operation at all times.

Councillor Hopkins addressed the meeting and wished Councillor Cummins, all the best for the coming year as Cathaoirleach of County Roscommon. She said we all need to work together for the betterment of the county and her aims going forward were to –

- Involve the youth more in decisions concerning their county and
- Encourage people to return to live in County Roscommon as it is a great place to live.

She thanked her family and friends and all who helped her with her election campaign.

Councillor Shanagher congratulated Councillor Cummins on his new role as Cathaoirleach of County Roscommon and said that she was looking forward to working with Councillor Cummins and the executive for the benefit of Roscommon town and county. She thanked her family and friends and all who helped her during her election campaign.

Councillor Dineen congratulated Councillor Cummins on becoming Cathaoirleach. He highlighted issues of most concern to him -

- Water quality in the county,
- Retention of the local Area Offices.
- Need to keep our people in the county.

He thanked his family and friends and all who helped with his election campaign and the people of Roscommon and Castlerea for voting for him.

Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive, on his own behalf and on behalf of the executive congratulated Councillor Cummins and Councillor Connaughton on being elected Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach respectively

75.14. CHAIRPERSONS OF THE FOUR STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

Tommy Ryan confirmed that Chairs would not be designated to individual SPC's today as the Scheme has to be drawn up which will re-examine the make up of the four SPC's.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Laurence Fallon be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme when adopted.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Pascal Fitzmaurice be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme when adopted .

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor John Keogh be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme when adopted .

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Dineen

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Tony Ward be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme when adopted.

Councillor Pascal Fitzmaurice requested that it be on record that when a decision is taken on the Scheme that he wished to be considered for the Chair of the SPC with responsibility for Planning.

76.14. RIVER SUCK JOINT DRAINAGE COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Hopkins

SECONDED by Councillor Mulligan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor John Naughten be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Paddy Kilduff be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Ivan Connaughton be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Murphy

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Nigel Dineen be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Leyden

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Pascal Fitzmaurice be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Seamus Meagher, Slevinagee, Golf Links Road, Roscommon be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Creaton

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that James Rogers, Valeview, Lisalway, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Laurence Fallon Jnr, Ballyminton, Dysart, Ballinasloe, Co. Roscommon be elected as a member of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that the following be elected as members of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee:- Larry Brennan, Down the Hatch Bar, Church Street, Roscommon and Aidan Sampey, Buckhill, Fairymount, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following to be elected Members of the River Suck Joint Drainage Committee:- Councillors, Naughton, Kilduff, Connaughton, Dineen, and Fitzmaurice and Sean Meagher, James Rogers, Laurence Fallon Jnr., Larry Brennan and Aidan Sampey,

77.14. LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS ASSOCIATION (LAMA):

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Dineen

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Tony Ward be elected to the Local Authority Members Association.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Tony Ward to be the elected member of the Local Authority Members Association (LAMA).

78.14. BORDER, MIDLAND & WESTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Eugene Murphy elected to the Border, Midland & Western Regional Assembly.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Nigel Dineen be elected to the Border, Midland & Western Regional Assembly.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following elected to the Border, Midland & Western Regional Assembly:- Councillors Murphy and Dineen.

79.14. ASSOCIATION OF IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AILG):

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Creaton

SECONDED by Councillor Naughten

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Maura Hopkins be the voting delegate at the Annual Conference and also be a permanent delegate to the Standing Policy Council of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) for the full five year term.

In accordance with the Grouping System of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor John Keogh be the voting delegate at the Annual Conference and also be a permanent delegate to the Standing Policy Council of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) for the full five year term.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Nigel Dineen be the voting delegate at the Annual Conference and also be a permanent delegate to the Standing Policy Council of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) for the full five year term.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following to be elected to represent Roscommon County Council as voting delegates at the Annual Conference and also as permanent delegates to the Standing Policy Council of the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) :- Councillors Hopkins, Keogh and Dineen.

80.14. COUNTY ROSCOMMON HERITAGE FORUM:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Eugene Murphy be elected to the County Roscommon Heritage Forum.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Eugene Murphy to be the elected member of the County Roscommon Heritage Forum.

81.14. ROSCOMMON COMHAIRLE na nOg STEERING COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh
SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Paddy Kilduff be elected to the Roscommon Comhairle na nOg Steering Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Kathleen Shanagher be elected to the Roscommon Comhairle na nOg Steering Committee.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillors Kilduff and Shanagher to be the elected members of the Roscommon Comhairle na nOg Steering Committee.

82.14. IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LIMITED:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Keogh be elected to represent Roscommon County Council at the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Keogh to be elected to represent Roscommon County Council at the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

83.14. ELECTION OF DELEGATE TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Shanagher be elected delegate to the Annual General Meeting of the Library Association of Ireland.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Shanagher to be the elected delegate to the Annual General Meeting of the Library Association of Ireland.

84.14. APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughten

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Creaton be appointed a delegate to the Annual Conference of the Library Association of Ireland.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Ward

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Leyden be appointed a delegate to the Annual Conference of the Library Association of Ireland.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Shanagher be appointed a delegate to the Annual Conference of the Library Association of Ireland.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members to be appointed delegates to the Annual Conference of the Library Association of Ireland:- Councillors Creaton, Leyden and Shanagher.

85.14. LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (LTACC):

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Fallon
SECONDED by Councillor Naughton
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Connolly be appointed to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

In accordance with the Grouping System of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Murphy
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Cummins be appointed to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Shanagher be appointed to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members appointed to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee:- Councillors Connolly, Cummins and Shanagher.

86.14. RURAL WATER – LOCAL MONITORING COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Creaton
SECONDED by Councillor Naughten
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Hopkins be appointed to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Cummins be appointed to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Dineen be appointed to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members elected to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee:- Councillors Hopkins, Cummins and Dineen.

87.14. REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM WEST:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughten
SECONDED by Councillor Hopkins
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Creaton be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Cummins be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Dineen be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West:- Councillors Creaton, Cummins and Dineen.

88.14. ROAD SAFETY TOGETHER COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughten
SECONDED by Councillor Fallon
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Connolly be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Doherty be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Dineen be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee:- Councillors Connolly, Doherty and Dineen.

89.14. ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL AUDIT COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Dineen
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Murphy be nominated to the Roscommon County Council Audit Committee

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Dineen
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Ward be nominated to the Roscommon County Council Audit Committee

The Cathaoirleach declared the following to be nominated to Roscommon County Council Audit Committee:- Councillors Murphy and Ward.

90.14. LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC):

Nominations to this Committee were deferred pending clarification from the Department.

91.14. GALWAY/ROSCOMMON EDUCATION & TRAINING BOARD:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Creaton
SECONDED by Councillor Connolly
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mulligan be nominated to the Galway/Roscommon Education & Training Board.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillors Creaton, Naughten, Hopkins, Fallon, Connolly and Mulligan

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Connaughton be nominated to the Galway/Roscommon Education & Training Board.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Kilduff
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Shanagher be nominated to the Galway/Roscommon Education & Training Board.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members nominated to the Galway/Roscommon Education & Training Board:-Councillors Mulligan, Connaughton and Shanagher.

92.14. WESTERN INTER-COUNTY RAILWAY COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Kilduff be nominated to the Western Rail Committee.

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Kilduff to be nominated to the Western Inter-County Railway Committee.

93.14. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly
SECONDED by Councillor Mulligan
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Fallon be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

In accordance with the Grouping System of Councillors Connolly, Mulligan and Fallon.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughton
SECONDED by Councillor Hopkins
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Creaton be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

In accordance with the Grouping System of Councillors Naughton, Hopkins and Creaton.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh
SECONDED by Councillor Dineen
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Ward be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Murphy
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Doherty be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Dineen
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Leyden be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Dineen
SECONDED by Councillor Keogh
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Kilduff be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

The Cathaoirleach declared the following members nominated to the Standing Orders Committee:- Councillors Fallon, Creaton, Ward, Doherty, Leyden and Kilduff.

94.14. INDUCTION TRAINING FOR ELECTED MEMBERS:

The Meetings Administrator informed the members that a Training Day had been organised by the Association of Irish Local Government on the 17th June, 2014 in the Sligo Park Hotel for all members.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Ward
SECONDED by Councillor Naughten
It was **AGREED** that all elected members would attend the Training Seminar being organised by the AILG on the 17th June, 2014 in the Sligo Park Hotel.

95.14. FIXING OF DATE FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS:

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Creaton
SECONDED by Councillor Keogh
It was **AGREED** to hold the AGM of the Municipal Districts as follows:-
Athlone at 10.00 on Thursday the 12th June, 2014.
Boyle at 11.00 a.m. on Thursday the 12th June, 2014.
Roscommon at 12 noon on Thursday the 12th June, 2014.

Members queried how many of the executive will be in attendance at the Municipal District Meetings.

Tommy Ryan confirmed that there will be need to look at how we are going to operate these meetings and there are a lot of issues to be ironed out. A number of Circulars and Resolutions have issued from the Department in relation to Municipal Districts and the

methodology in which they will operate is a complete change for both executive and the members. He reiterated that the full days training in July will discuss various issues surrounding the local authority including

- The Municipal Districts.
- The new roles in relation to economic development.
- The new Strategic Policy Schemes.
- The economic plan for the county.

He highlighted the need for executive and councillors to sit around as a group and to agree on what structures need to be put in place going forward. He clarified that Circulars which have issued from the Department state that most of the business must be done at Municipal District meetings. He highlighted the new protocol under the Public Participation Network which is a structure to be established so that there can be public participation in the decision making process of the local authorities.

Standing Orders need to be reviewed which will play an important role in the policy of the Council. A new Corporate Plan must also be compiled. He continued that there is a need for a meeting with the Corporate Policy Group which will be agreed at a future date. He confirmed that a new Training and Development Plan must be completed for the members and that suggestions will be taken on board from members at the Training Day on the 24th July.

96.14. FIXING OF DATES FOR COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff

SECONDED by Councillor Creaton

And **AGREED** that in the interim the following should be the dates and times for holding the County Council Meetings in 2014/2015:-

28th July, 2014 - Plenary Meeting.

AUGUST - NO MEETING.

22nd September, 2014. - Plenary Meeting

20th October, 2014 - Plenary Meeting.

17th November, 2014 - Special Plenary Meeting on Roscommon Local Area Plan.

24th November, 2014 - Municipal District Meeting.

15th December, 2014 – Plenary Meeting.

26th January, 2015 - Municipal District Meeting.

23rd February, 2015 – Plenary Meeting.

23rd March, 2015 - Plenary Meeting.

27th April, 2015 – Municipal District Meeting.

25th May, 2015 – Plenary Meeting.

AGM – Plenary Meeting – 22nd June, 2015.

AGM – Municipal District Meeting - 29th June, 2015 (Provisional).

97.14. SALARIES OF CATHAOIRLEACH & LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH:

Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive informed the members that under new Local Government Guidelines laid down by Environment Minister Phil Hogan the salary of the Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council has been cut from €36,000 to €20,000 max per annum. The Leas Cathaoirleach's salary has been reduced to €4,000 max per annum. Payments to Councillors for attending conferences and training courses has also been amended

Members expressed their annoyance at these cuts in the salaries and strongly opposed the reductions.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Byrne
That the Cathaoirleach's salary remain at €36,000

Tommy Ryan stated that it was not possible to continue the payment of €36,000 as a direction has been received from the Department of Environment that the salary of the Cathaoirleach can not be in excess of €20,000.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Leyden
SECONDED by Councillor Murphy
It was **AGREED** to accept the figure of €20,000 as the Cathaoirleach's salary.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Murphy
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
It was **AGREED** to accept the figure of €4,000 as the Leas-Cathaoirleach's salary.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Ward
It was **AGREED** to accept the figure of €6,000 as the fee for the SPC Chair

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh
SECONDED by Councillor Doherty
It was **AGREED** that a letter issue to Minister Hogan requesting him to review allowances payable to members.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kilduff
SECONDED by Councillor Byrne
That a letter issue to the Department of Environment acknowledging and accepting the new regulations by the Department in relation to the allowance for Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach, however, the members of Roscommon County Council wish to express their dissatisfaction in the cut to a rural county like Roscommon.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly
SECONDED by Councillor Mulligan
That Roscommon County Council object to the issue of a letter to the Department of Environment re salary cuts.

A discussion on the matter ensued and the following issues were raised:-

- Reduction in salary is an insult to the people of County Roscommon.
- Cut should be accepted, members need to show leadership.
- Cuts in allowances may lead to a situation where only people who are independently wealthy can run for Councillor.
- Conferences kept communities alive.
- Retrograde step to cut the Cathaoirleach's allowance.

As no consensus could be reached on the matter the Meetings Administrator was requested to call a vote on both Councillor Kilduff and Councillor Connolly's proposals which resulted as follows:

VOTING FOR COUNCILLOR KILDUFF'S PROPOSAL:

Councillors Byrne, Connaughton, Cummins, Dineen, Doherty, Fitzmaurice, Keogh, Kilduff, Leyden, Murphy, Shanagher and Ward (12)

VOTING FOR COUNCILLOR CONNOLLY'S PROPOSAL:

Councillors Connolly, Creaton, Hopkins, Mulligan and Naughten (5)

ABSTENTIONS:

Councillor Fallon (1)

The Cathaoirleach declared Councillor Kilduff's proposal carried.

Roscommon Local Area Plan:

It was agreed that an information session would take place on the 12th June for any members that wished to attend with regard to the Roscommon Local Area Plan.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed

Mayor

Meetings Administrator

Countersigned

