

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ANNUAL Meeting HELD IN THE COUNCIL Chamber - Áras an Chontae, ON FRIDAY, 21st June, 2024

PRESENT: Councillor Paschal Fitzmaurice **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr V. Byrne, Cllr L. Callaghan, Cllr T. Crosby, Cllr N. Dineen, Cllr L. Fallon, Cllr E. Kelly, Cllr M. McDermott, Cllr J. Keogh, Cllr A. Waldron, Cllr J. Naughten, Cllr D. Connolly, Cllr S. Moylan, Cllr M. Frain, Cllr G. Scahill, Cllr L. Cull, Cllr L. Brennan and Cllr T. Ward.

OFFICIALS: Shane Tiernan, Chief Executive
Caitlín Conneely, Director of Services
Mark Keaveney, Director of Services
Sean Mullarkey, Head of Finance
Greg O'Donnell, A/Director of Services
Claudette Collins, Staff Officer
Patricia Bohan, Meetings Administrator
Karen Hanley, Meetings Administrator

Apologies:

94.24 WELCOME FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chief Executive, Mr. Shane Tiernan welcomed the newly elected and returned members to the chamber for the 2024-2029 term of Roscommon County Council. He also paid tribute to the outgoing councillors. He thanked them for their commitment and work in the County Council for the citizens of Roscommon. He welcomed the press and members of the public, including the members' families and friends to the meeting.

Mr. Tiernan thanked Caitlín Connelly as Returning Officer, supported by the Management Team and staff for the successful delivery of the local election. He thanked the outgoing Cathaoirleach Councillor John Keogh and all Cathaoirligh that have supported him in making Roscommon a great place to live, work and invest. Mr. Tiernan noted that Roscommon County Council is now entering a new Corporate Plan phase, setting the direction for the next 5 years, and this also links to the Annual Service Delivery Plan.

Mr. Tiernan wished all elected members well for a successful tenure.

95.24 TO NOTE THE NAMES OF PERSONS DULY ELECTED TO ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SCHEDULE 10 (4) OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001

The Meetings Administrator noted the names of persons duly elected as follows:
Councillor Larry Brennan, Councillor Valerie Byrne, Councillor Liam Callaghan, Councillor Dominick Connolly, Councillor Tom Crosby, Councillor Leah Cull, Councillor Nigel Dineen, Councillor Laurence Fallon, Councillor Paschal Fitzmaurice, Councillor Micheál Frain, Councillor Emer Kelly, Councillor John Keogh, Councillor Marty McDermott, Councillor Sean Moylan, Councillor John Naughton, Councillor Gareth Scahill, Councillor Anthony Waldron, Councillor Tony Ward.

96.24 ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH

The Chief Executive invited proposals for the election of Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council for the term 2024-2025.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Marty McDermott

SECONDED by Councillor Gareth Scahill

That Councillor Paschal Fitzmaurice be elected as Cathaoirleach

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Tony Ward

SECONDED by Councillor Anthony Waldron

That Councillor Nigel Dineen be elected as Cathaoirleach

A vote was taken by the Meetings Administrator on the election of Cathaoirleach, which resulted as follows:

VOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR PASCHAL FITZMAURICE

Councillor Sean Moylan, Councillor Larry Brennan, Councillor John Naughton, Councillor John Keogh, Councillor Callaghan, Councillor Connolly, Councillor Crosby, Councillor Fallon, Councillor Fitzmaurice, Councillor Kelly, Councillor Keogh, Councillor McDermott, Councillor Scahill (12)

VOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR NIGEL DINEEN

Councillor Nigel Dineen, Councillor Tony Ward, Councillor Leah Cull, Councillor Anthony Waldron (4)

ABSTAINED

Councillor Byrne, Councillor Frain (2)

Councillor Pascal Fitzmaurice was duly elected as Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council.

Councillor Fitzmaurice thanked his proposer and seconder and members that voted for him. He said it was a great honour to be elected to this position, and that he intends to be fair to all members during his tenure. He welcomed the new Councillors, and remembered the Councillors that retired, and stated that their time in Roscommon County Council is very well noted, and they brought forward many projects. He thanked Mr. Tiernan and all staff of Roscommon County Council, stating they are very facilitating of the members in helping make Roscommon a great place. He thanked his family and friends for their support, those in the public gallery. He also gave special thanks to his wife and children for their support. He outlined a number of different areas that he would prioritise during his term of office as Cathaoirleach including:

- Traffic calming in villages and towns
- Economic development – encouraging economic growth
- Housing
- Community and Tourism – a lot of work done and many projects coming. Wants more work for playgrounds, parks and pools, for people with all abilities, especially children
- Planning resources
- Roads – focus on verge trimming

He acknowledged the contribution of Councillor Keogh over his last term as Cathaoirleach, and that he represented Roscommon very well.

97.24 ELECTION OF LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Fitzmaurice invited proposals for the election of Leas Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council for the term 2024-2025.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Sean Moylan

SECONDED by Councillor John Naughton

That Councillor Larry Brennan be elected as Leas Cathaoirleach

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Nigel Dineen

SECONDED by Councillor Tony Ward

That Councillor Leah Cull be elected as Leas Cathaoirleach

A vote was taken by the Meetings Administrator on the election of Leas Cathaoirleach, which resulted as follows:

VOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR LARRY BRENNAN

Councillor Sean Moylan, Councillor Larry Brennan, Councillor John Naughton, Councillor John Keogh, Councillor Callaghan, Councillor Connolly, Councillor Crosby, Councillor Fallon, Councillor Fitzmaurice, Councillor Kelly, Councillor Keogh, Councillor McDermott, Councillor Scahill (12)

VOTING FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR LEAH CULL

Councillor Nigel Dineen, Councillor Tony Ward, Councillor Leah Cull, Councillor Anthony Waldron (4)

ABSTAINED

Councillor Byrne, Councillor Frain (2)

Councillor Larry Brennan was duly elected as Leas Cathaoirleach of Roscommon County Council.

Councillor Brennan was congratulated by Councillor Fitzmaurice on his election as Leas Cathaoirleach. Councillor Brennan noted to the Cathaoirleach, Chief Executive and fellow elected members that he was very proud to accept the position. He thanks his proposer and seconder. He commiserated with Councillor Leah Cull. He said he was looking forward to working with the executive and other elected members in working for Co. Roscommon. He acknowledged the presence of friends and family, and their support. He paid tribute to outgoing Cathaoirleach in his role in last 12 months. He acknowledged Councillor Fitzmaurice as Cathaoirleach and wished him the best for his role.

98.24 CONTRIBUTIONS BY MEMBERS TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

All of the members spoke and thanked the people who had voted for them, their campaign teams and families. They congratulated the Councillor Fitzmaurice and Councillor Brennan on their appointment to roles of Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach. They thanked Councillor Keogh for his successful tenure as Cathaoirleach last year. The members also thanked Returning Officer Caitlín Conneely and all Roscommon County Council staff for their work in delivering a successful local election count. Thanks were also conveyed to local media for their extensive coverage of the local election.

Other issues were raised as follows:

- Members need to listen to the issues that were raised on the doorsteps while canvassing

- Castlerea Fire Station
- Lough Funshinagh flooding
- Importance of tourism and economic development

99.24 TO ELECT CHAIRPERSONS OF STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

The Meetings Administrator stated that the following new Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) are proposed for the 2024-2029 scheme, and the chairs would be confirmed for each committee by the Corporate Policy Group.

- Economic Development, Enterprise and Regeneration SPC
- Roads, Planning and Emergency Services SPC
- Housing, Integration, Community and Culture SPC
- Climate Action, Environment and Rural Water SPC

The Meetings Administrator informed the Members that in accordance with Schedule 10 (18) of the Local Government Act 2001, a grouping of five Members is required to be allocated one of the four positions of Chairperson of the SPCs.

The grouping was confirmed by Councillor Dineen as Councillor Waldron, Councillor Dineen, Councillor Ward, Councillor Cull, Councillor Frain.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Dineen
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Waldron be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme.

In accordance with the grouping system of Councillor Waldron, Councillor Dineen, Councillor Ward, Councillor Cull and Councillor Frain.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan
SECONDED by Councillor Fallon
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Keogh be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan
SECONDED by Councillor Fallon
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Crosby be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan
SECONDED by Councillor Fallon
And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Naughton be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme.

Councillor Keogh requested an adjournment of the meeting, and this was agreed by the Cathaoirleach. After the adjournment Councillor Ward spoke regarding the grouping in relation to the appointment of Chair to the SPCs. Councillor Ward withdrew the nominee for Chair of an SPC as he confirmed that their

grouping was 4 members not 5 members, as Councillor Frain was not part of the group. The nomination of Councillor Waldron was withdrawn.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that a grouping of 5 is needed to nominate a Chair, thus a group of 4 is not able to do so.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Brennan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mc Dermott be elected as Chairperson of a Strategic Policy Committee in accordance with the new SPC Scheme.

100.24 TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING BODIES AND COMMITTEES:

100.24a ASSOCIATION OF IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AILG)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor John Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Brennan be the voting delegate at the Annual Conference and also be the permanent delegate to the Standing Policy Council of the AILG for the full five year term.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor John Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Callaghan be the voting delegate at the Annual Conference and also be the permanent delegate to the Standing Policy Council of the AILG for the full five year term.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor John Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Byrne be the voting delegate at the Annual Conference and also be the permanent delegate to the Standing Policy Council of the AILG for the full five year term.

100.24b NORTHERN AND WESTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY (NWRA)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Crosby

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Naughton be elected to the NWRA.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Crosby

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Frain be elected to the NWRA.

100.24c COUNTY ROSCOMMON HERITAGE FORUM

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill to be the elected member of the County Roscommon Heritage Forum.

100.24d GALWAY AND ROSCOMMON EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD (GRET)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Brennan be nominated to the GRET.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill be nominated to the GRET.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Connolly be nominated to the GRET.

100.24e IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LIMITED (IPB)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor McDermott

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Keogh be elected to represent Roscommon County Council at the AGM of the Board of IPB.

100.24f LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly

SECONDED by Councillor Crosby

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Callaghan be elected delegate to the AGM of the Library Association of Ireland.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Brennan

SECONDED by Councillor Scahill

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

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Brennan

SECONDED by Councillor Scahill

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

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Brennan

SECONDED by Councillor Scahill

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

100.24g LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS ASSOCIATION (LAMA)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Naughton be nominated to LAMA.

100.24h LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughton

SECONDED by Councillor Kelly

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Fallon be appointed a member of the LCDC.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughton

SECONDED by Councillor Kelly

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Brennan be appointed a member of the LCDC.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughton

SECONDED by Councillor Kelly

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Connolly be appointed a member of the LCDC.

100.24i REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Moylan be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Kelly be nominated to the Regional Health Forum West.

100.24j LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (LTACC)

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kelly

SECONDED by Councillor Moylan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Keogh be nominated to the LTACC.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kelly

SECONDED by Councillor Moylan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Crosby be nominated to the LTACC.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Kelly

SECONDED by Councillor Moylan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Callaghan be nominated to the LTACC.

100.24k ROAD SAFETY TOGETHER COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Moylan be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Kelly be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Frain be nominated to the Road Safety Together Committee.

100.24l ROSCOMMON COMHAIRLE NA NOG STEERING COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor McDermott

SECONDED by Councillor Connolly

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Moylan be nominated to the Roscommon Comhairle Na Nog Steering Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor McDermott

SECONDED by Councillor Connolly

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill be nominated to the Roscommon Comhairle Na Nog Steering Committee.

100.24m ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL AUDIT COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Brennan

SECONDED by Councillor Callaghan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Keogh be nominated to the Roscommon County Council Audit Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Brennan

SECONDED by Councillor Callaghan

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill be nominated to the Roscommon County Council Audit Committee.

100.24n RURAL WATER LOCAL MONITORING COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Scahill

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Crosby be nominated to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Scahill

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Callaghan be nominated to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Scahill

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Frain be nominated to the Rural Water Local Monitoring Committee.

100.24o STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Moylan be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Crosby be nominated to Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Fitzmaurice be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Naughton be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor McDermott be nominated to the Standing Orders Committee.

100.24p WESTERN INTER-COUNTY RAILWAY COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Scahill be nominated to the Western Inter-County Railway Committee.

100.24q UDARÁS NA HOLLSCOILE GOVERNING AUTHORITY, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Naughton

SECONDED by Councillor Keogh

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Callaghan be nominated to the Udarás Na hOllscoile Governing Authority, National University of Ireland, Galway.

100.24r TFI LOCAL LINK LONGFORD WESTMEATH ROSCOMMON

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Moylan

SECONDED by Councillor Scahill

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Callaghan be nominated to the TFI Local Link Longford Westmeath Roscommon.

100.24s MIDLANDS REGIONAL TRANSITION STEERING COMMITTEE

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Connolly

SECONDED by Councillor Fallon

And **RESOLVED** that Councillor Naughton be nominated to the Midlands Regional Transition Steering Committee.

101.24 TO FIX THE DATES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Naughton

SECONDED by Councillor Kelly

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Meeting of the Athlone Municipal District will take place on Thursday 27th June 2024 at 10am in the Athlone MD Office.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Callaghan

SECONDED by Councillor Crosby

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Meeting of the Boyle Municipal District will take place on Friday 28th June 2024 at 11am.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor McDermott

SECONDED by Councillor Scahill

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Meeting of the Roscommon Municipal District will take place on Thursday 27th June 2024 at 2pm.

102.24 TO FIX THE DATES OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL MEETINGS 2024-2025

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

It was **AGREED** to fix the dates of the next Plenary Meetings of Roscommon County Council as follows:

Monday 22nd July 2024

Monday 23rd September 2024

Monday 21st October 2024

Monday 25th November 2024

Monday 16th December 2024

Monday 27th January 2025

Monday 24th February 2025

Monday 24th March 2025

Monday 28th April 2025

Monday 26th May 2025

Annual Meeting Monday 23rd June 2025

Monday 23rd June 2025

103.24 TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT OF ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL 2023

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Keogh

SECONDED by Councillor Crosby

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Draft Annual Report of Roscommon County Council 2023.

104.24 TO NOTE AILG INDUCTION TRAINING FOR ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE NEW COUNCIL

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Byrne

SECONDED by Councillor Naughton

It was **AGREED** to nominate all of the elected members of Roscommon County Council to attend the induction seminar organised by AILG, which will take place on Friday 28th June.

105.24 TO ADOPT STANDING ORDERS

The Meetings Administrator informed the members that the Standing Orders are under review and will be presented for adoption at the next scheduled council meeting.

106.24 TO NOTE REQUIREMENTS IN RELATION TO ETHICS DECLARATIONS FOR NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILLORS

The Meetings Administrator informed the members that those elected for the first time must return the annual declaration form no later than six weeks from the day they came into office. The Ethics Registrar has written to the relevant members with the appropriate correspondence for completion, this must be submitted no later than 26th July.

107.24 TO NOTE LOCAL ELECTIONS (DISCLOSURE OF DONATIONS AND EXPENDITURE) ACT 1999 AS AMENDED BY THE ELECTORAL (AMENDMENT NO 2) ACT 2009

The Meetings Administrator informed the members that all candidates are legally required to submit a disclosure of Donations and Expenditure in relation to the local election. This is required to be returned by 5th September 2024.

108.24 RETIREMENT OF MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

The Cathaoirleach, all elected members and Chief Executive wished retiring Meetings Administrator, Patricia Bohan, well for her forthcoming retirement, and thanked her for her support and contribution to Roscommon County Council.

Patricia Bohan thanked the members and the executive team for their well wishes, and wished them all the best for their new council term.

This concluded the business of the Annual Meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are Confirmed and Signed:



Meetings Administrator



Cathaoirleach



Countersigned