

# MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER AT 11.00AM

**In the chair:** Cllr Michael McCarthy

**Present:** John Brennan, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Pat Fitzpatrick and Maurice Shortall

**In attendance:** Philippe Beubry, Michael Delahunty, Nancy Byrne and Steve Coverdale

## **1. Confirmation of Minutes of:-**

### **(a) November Meeting of the Municipal District of Castlecomer**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr John Brennan, seconded by Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh and agreed.

### **(b) Statutory Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Castlecomer**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Maurice Shortall, seconded by Cllr John Brennan and agreed.

## **2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

### **(a) Broadband**

Steve Coverdale, Broadband Officer provided a presentation to the members updating them on proposals for the provision of broadband in Castlecomer. The presentation included a summary of the Solstice fixed wireless proposal as well as details of alternative options for broadband provision in the town.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- The members thanked Steve Coverdale for his work to date and acknowledged what has been achieved.
- The members expressed disappointment with the progress of National Broadband Plan rollout.
- Members agreed to keep 'Broadband' on the agenda.

Michael Delahunty outlined details of response received from Minister John Paul Phelan's office.

### **(b) Local Improvement Scheme**

Philippe Beubry circulated an update on the Local Improvement Scheme since its re-activation in October 2017 and dealt with members queries.

A conversation ensued in respect of the Community Involvement in Road Works Scheme and contributions were received from the members as follows:

- The disproportionate number of public lanes in the North of the County were discussed.
- The extensive waiting period for applicants under the Community Involvement in Road Works Scheme by comparison with the Local Improvement Scheme. Philippe Beubry reminded members of the specific funding received a number of years back for the CIRWS and the benefits achieved as a result.

## **3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.**

None

## **4. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting.**

### **Items submitted by the members**

#### **(a) Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh**

(i) **Community CCTV cameras. What is the delay in Kilkenny?**

Cllr Cavanagh raised the issue of lack of progress by Kilkenny County Council in comparison with other Local Authorities.

Contributions were received as follows:

- Cllr Shortall advised that he understood a meeting involving the Minister and CEOs had taken place and requested an update on this meeting.
- Members referred to the financial contribution made in Urlingford and the period of time which has elapsed since.
- Cllr Fitzpatrick suggested Kilkenny County Council take the role as lead authority on the issue.
- Cllr McCarthy confirmed that Urlingford's application is not quite ready yet for submission.

Michael Delahunty updated members in respect of the lack of progress nationally arising from a number of GDPR issues raised as a result of new EU legislation, the Data Protection Commissioners clarification that issued and the communication between The Councils officials and An Garda Siochana on the matter.

(ii) **Update on ramps for Chapelfield, Urlingford.**

Philippe Beubry confirmed road markings had been provided in the estate. He also outlined details of 2 failed attempts to complete traffic counts as a result of equipment being tampered with and confirmed a final and third attempt will be made.

(b) **Cllr Maurice Shortall**

- **School Safety Programme – CLAR 2019**

Cllr Shortall acknowledged the excellent work completed under this programme to date. He also highlighted that some of the work completed is outdated and should be re-visited. Philippe Beubry concurred with Cllr Shortall's views and confirmed that it is his intention to review all works completed and put a programme together for 2019. Michael Delahunty confirmed that they will be lining up CLAR applications with Community Groups to put a programme together for 2019. He also reminded members of the April/May deadline. It was agreed that this item would be included on the agenda of the February meeting for another update.

**5. Notices of Motion**

(a) **Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh received 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

That Castlecomer Municipal District alert the public, via the Council's website and in the press and local radio, to the need for adequate "Fire Brigade call out" insurance cover on their houses and business premises.

This motion was agreed. Cllr Cavanagh requested that this Notice of Motion be brought forward to the full Council meeting.

Cllr McCarthy confirmed that he is aware that the Kilkenny Fire Services are putting an advertisement together for their website to raise awareness on fire brigade costs.

**6. Correspondence**

Michael Delahunty circulated response received from the Minister John Paul Phelan's office in connection with the Register of Electors and dealt with member's queries.

Members expressed their disappointment with the response circulated.

**7. Matters arising from minutes**

None

**8. Any other business**

**(a) Deputation from Urlingford**

It was agreed that details of the issues which the deputation wish to raise, will be circulated to the members in advance of the January meeting.

Members also agreed that after the January meeting no more deputations would be received until after the local elections which has been the practice in recent years.

**(b) On call cover for the Christmas period**

Members sought details of on call cover for the Christmas period to which Philippe Beubry responded.

**(c) Good wishes to Minister Phelan on his forthcoming marriage**

Cllr Cavanagh requested that her good wishes to Minister Phelan in respect of his forthcoming marriage be noted.

The members expressed their thanks to all the officials present for their help throughout 2018 and wished them a peaceful and happy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_