

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON TUESDAY 27TH
SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 11.45AM**

Chair: Cllr P Fitzpatrick

Cllrs: J Brennan, P Millea and M Shortall.

Officials: P Beubry, M Delahunty, M Mulholland, N Byrne, K Peacock,
C Goodwin

Apologies: Cllr M H Cavanagh and Cllr M McCartney

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-

(a) July Meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District held on 18th July 2016

The minutes were proposed by Cllr J Brennan, seconded by Cllr P Millea and agreed:- "That the minutes of the July Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 18th of July 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved."

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Public Participation Network – Katherine Peacock

Katherine Peacock provided a detailed and informative presentation to members on Kilkenny Public Participation Network (PPN). She advised that the PPN is a mechanism for members of the public to have a formal role in relevant local policy making and outlined details of structure of PPN. She advised that the PPN is replacing the Community and Voluntary Forum and acknowledged that in order for people to come on board the benefits must be clearly visible. K Peacock also acknowledged confusion which exists around PPN and the need to communicate in simpler and more welcoming language. Members acknowledge work and difficult task being undertaken by K Peacock and again reiterated need for language used around the PPN to be easy to comprehend and welcoming.

MMulholland advised that members will be notified details of groups which have come on board and any omissions can be identified.

K Peacock was thanked for her presentation and withdrew from the meeting.

(b) Parks – Claire Goodwin

C Goodwin made a detailed and informative presentation to members under a number of headings including:

- Woodstock Gardens

- Playgrounds
- Urban Tree Management
- Roundabout Sponsorship
- Park Development
- Greenway Development
- Amenity Grants

Work which has been achieved by CGoodwin and her team was acknowledged and praised by the members. CGoodwin was thanked for detailed and enjoyable presentation provided and withdrew from the meeting.

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

No items were raised.

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

Items submitted by members:-

Cllr M H Cavanagh:

- (a) Bottle Banks
- (b) Trees at Old Bridge Street, Freshford
- (c) Safety at Barna
- (d) Water Replacement Scheme at Galmoy
- (e) Flooding at Bayswell / Lough

It was agreed that as Cllr M H Cavanagh was absent from today's meeting the above items would be deferred to the October meeting.

Cllr M Shortall

(a) Student Summer Work Scheme

Cllr Shortall enquired the feasibility of extending student summer work scheme on a trial basis to assist in dealing with issues such as weed control. M Delahunty advised that a pre requisite to the extension would be availability of both a budget and work. The need for Area Engineers agreement was acknowledged. It was agreed M Delahunty would investigate proposal and revert to the members.

(b) Policy on Derelict Sites

Cllr M Shortall acknowledged with thanks policy information circulated by N Byrne.

5. Correspondence

Request for reception of deputation received on behalf of residents of Mill Lane & Mill Road, Gowran, c/o Ted Ryan.

Details of proposed deputation were discussed. Cllr Shortall sought clarification in respect of rules governing location of public lighting. P Beubry to discuss with J Daly & request his attendance at October meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District.

It was agreed deputation would be received at 11.35am, directly after the minutes at the October meeting.

6. Matters arising from minutes

M Delahunty advised that an acknowledgement had been received from the Minister in respect of letter sent pertaining to increased funding for Local Improvement Scheme. Cllr J Brennan advised that he had also raised this issue with the Minister during a recent meeting.

N Byrne circulated current Local Improvement Scheme list to the members.

7. Any other business

Hedge Cutting

Members acknowledged work completed by D Foley, Area Roads Technician. However small deterrent contained in the legislation for landowners / users who don't comply with notices served was discussed. It was agreed to ascertain the level of fine for non compliance with hedge notices and to write to the Minister to increase it had it not been increased to a meaningful sum. P Beupry reminded members that we have to allow landowners / users up to the end of the hedge cutting season to cut their hedges. However, he requested that where a problem is identified with overgrown hedges this should be notified to D Foley at the Castlecomer Area Office.

Irish Water

Members acknowledge progress achieved with revised format of meeting.

Budget meeting

M Delahunty outlined details of requirement under Circular Fin 05/2016 for each Municipal District to hold separate budget meeting and advised that M Prendiville will be in attendance. It was agreed that the meeting would take place at 11am on Monday 17th of October and will be followed directly by the Ordinary Meeting which is scheduled to commence at 11.30am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____