

**MINUTES OF FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LETTERKENNY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT, HELD IN THE LETTERKENNY PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE ON FRIDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2014.**

***MDL 01/14    MEMBERS PRESENT***

Cllr. Liam Blaney  
Cllr. Ciaran Brogan  
Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh  
Cllr. Michael McBride  
Cllr. James McDaid  
Cllr. Ian McGarvey  
Cllr. Gerry McMonagle  
Cllr. John O'Donnell  
Cllr. Mick Quinn  
Cllr. Dessie Shiels

***MDL02/14    OFFICIALS PRESENT***

Fergal Doherty, S.E.E./Area Manager, Roads & Transportation  
Eunan Kelly, Area Manager, Corporate & Housing Services  
Linda McCann, Staff Officer  
Liam Ward, Director of Service

The outgoing Chair of Letterkenny Electoral Area Committee, Cllr. Liam Blaney, took the chair pending the election of the Cathaoirleach. Cllr Blaney welcomed everybody to the first meeting of the Letterkenny Municipal District. He congratulated all candidates who were elected and acknowledged that there would be challenges ahead and requested that they all work together for the betterment of the area. He expressed commiserations to the candidates who did not get elected, in particular, Noel McBride who had served as a Councillor for 10 years and acknowledged the contribution of Dessie Larkin during his time as a Town Councillor and County Councillor. Cllr. Blaney asked that a letter issue to Dessie Larkin and Noel McBride thanking them for the contribution to the Letterkenny Electoral Area during their time on the LEAC. Each Councillor supported this. He also thanked other members and staff who attended the meetings for their co-operation and assistance during his year as Chairman.

Tributes were also paid to Letterkenny Town Councillors for their contribution towards to making Letterkenny the town it was today. Cllr. Gerry McMonagle proposed that a presentation be made to Jim Lynch and Victor Fisher who were long-standing Councillors of the Letterkenny Town Council over the past 30

years. Each Councillor supported this. Cllr. Ian McGarvey requested that Dessie Larkin be included in the presentation.

***MDL03/14***    ***ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH***

Cllr. Liam Blaney invited nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach of the Letterkenny Municipal District.

Cllr. Michael McBride was proposed by Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell.

Cllr. Dessie Shiels proposed Cllr. Liam Blaney; however this proposal was not seconded.

Cllr. Michael McBride was elected as Cathaoirleach and took the chair.

Cllr. Michael McBride thanked the Members for their support and looked forward to working with them through the many challenges ahead in obtaining funding for roads, housing and tourism. Cllr. McBride stated that it was important that the Members worked together for the overall development of Letterkenny and the rural areas and that the Letterkenny Municipal District was remembered as a diligent Council that worked well for everyone in the Municipal District.

Each Member congratulated Cllr. McBride on his election and thanked Cllr. Liam Blaney for his role as Chair of the Letterkenny Electoral Area for the previous year.

Cllr Shields requested Cllr Mc Bride not to draw any additional remuneration for the position of Cathaoirleach. Cllr Shields stated that the independents should not have had to form a grouping and that the Council was not all inclusive as he was not involved in any discussions. Cllr O'Donnell stated that Cllr Shiels representative had attended two meetings of the independents and that he had let down the grouping at the eleventh hour.

***MDL04/14***    ***ELECTION OF LEAS-CHATHAOIRLEACH***

Cllr. Michael McBride invited nominations for the position of Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Cllr. John O'Donnell was proposed by Cllr. Ian McGarvey and seconded by Cllr. Michael McBride.

Cllr Shiels stated that he had no objection to this. No other proposals were presented and Cllr. John O'Donnell was elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach. Each Member congratulated Cllr. O'Donnell on election.

***MDL05/14*** **ALTERNATIVE TITLE TO CATHOIRLEACH AND LEAS-CHATHAOIRLEACH (SECTION 37(1) (a) C OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM ACT 2014)**

The use of the title of Mayor and Deputy Mayor was proposed by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle in accordance with provisions of Section 37(1) (a) ( c) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Cllr. Dessie Shiels proposed that the titles of Cathaoirleach/ Leas-Chathaoirleach be used as this was less ceremonial than Mayor/Deputy Mayor and would gain more respect from the business community and. There was no seconder to this proposal.

Each Councillor expressed that the opportunity for Letterkenny Municipal District to have a choice in title should be availed of as the title of Mayor was more nationally and internationally recognised than Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Shiels proposed that if the titles of Mayor/Deputy Mayor were agreed that the Irish translation, Méara / Leas Mhéara be used which was allowed under the Local Government Reform Act 2014. Cllr O'Donnell seconded this proposal. After some further discussion on this proposal it was unanimously agreed that the use of Méara / Leas Mhéara be used when appropriate to the Mayor / Deputy Mayor of the day.

***MDL06/14*** **ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO COISTE NA GAELIGE**

Liam Ward advised that the Municipal District was entitled to elect two Members from the Letterkenny Municipal District to Coiste na Gaelige.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell it was agreed that Cllr. Ian McGarvey and Cllr. Mick Quinn would represent Letterkenny Municipal District on Coiste na Gaelige.

***MDL07/14*** **ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO DONEGAL HERITAGE FORUM**

Liam Ward advised that the Letterkenny Municipal District was entitled to elect one Member from the Letterkenny Municipal District to the Donegal Heritage Forum.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell it was agreed that the Mayor of Letterkenny Municipal District, Cllr. Michael

McBride would represent Letterkenny Municipal District on the Donegal Heritage Forum.

***MDL08/14     ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO COLMCILLE HERITAGE TRUST***

Liam Ward advised that the Letterkenny Municipal District was entitled to elect five Members from the Letterkenny Municipal District to the Colmcille Heritage Trust.

On the proposal of Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. Ciaran Brogan it was recommended that representation on the Colmcille Heritage Trust would be made up of 2 no. Fianna Fail Councillors, 1 no. Sinn Fein Councillor, 1 no. Fine Gael Councillor and 1 no. Independent Councillor and that the names of each Councillor to be forwarded to Eunan Kelly, Area Manager. for forwarding to the Colmcille Heritage Trust.

Cllr. Dessie Shiels proposed that more representation be given to Independent Councillors on the Trust. Liam Ward advised the members that increasing the representation was a matter for the Colmcille Trust. It was agreed to request the Trust to have six representatives from the Letterkenny Municipal District and if agreed by the Trust that the name of the second Independent Councillor be forwarded to Eunan Kelly, Area Manager.

***MDL09/14     ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO LETERKENNY THEATRE MANAGEMENT COMPANY***

Liam Ward advised that the Letterkenny Municipal District and Donegal County Council was entitled to nominate two Members from the Letterkenny Municipal District and two members from Donegal County Council to the Letterkenny Theatre Management Company. The Council would nominate two members at a future Council meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ciaran Brogan and seconded by Cllr. John O'Donnell it was resolved that Cllr. Gerry McMonagle and Anne McGowan, Chair of Letterkenny Tidy Towns Committee represent Letterkenny Municipal District on the Theatre Board of Management.

***MDL10/14     SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS***

Liam Ward advised the Letterkenny Municipal District that:

1. The proposed schedule of meetings for both the Plenary Council and Municipal Districts was to be considered by CPG at their meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2014.
2. Following this, it was proposed to have a full Workshop of Council to consider the schedules and other matters on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

3. A proposal in relation to the scheduling of meetings would then be brought forward to the full Council Meeting which was scheduled to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2014 for consideration and/or amendment and adoption.

It was agreed that a Letterkenny Municipal District Workshop would take place in Milford Public Services Centre on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 commencing at 10.00 a.m.

***MDL 11/14***    **MAYOR/DEPUTY MAYOR**

It was agreed that the following rotation for the Mayor/Deputy Mayor positions would take place:

Year 1	Independents,
Year 2	S.F.
Year 3	F.F.
Year 4	F.G.
Year 5	Independents

Liam Ward advised the Members that this did not form part of A.G.M. agenda and was being included in the record of the meeting for noting only.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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Mayor

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Meetings Administrator