

**Annual Meeting held on 24th June, 2011 at 3.00p.m. in the Council Chamber,
County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.**

In the Chair: Cllr. C. Connery

Also Present: Cllrs. M.H. Cavanagh, P. Millea, M. Shortall, J. Brennan, A. McGuinness, J. Coonan, M. Fitzpatrick, M. Brett, P. Cuddihy, M. Noonan, M. Doran, W. Ireland, T. Maher, P. Crowley, J. Galway, T. Prendergast, M. O' Brien, S. Treacy, E. Aylward, F. Doherty, C. Long, A.M. Irish, T. Breathnach, P. Dunphy.

Apologies: Cllr. B. Manning

In attendance: J. Crockett, J. Mulholland, P. O' Neill and A.M. Walsh

Outgoing Chairman's Address

A chomhairleoirí, a bhainisteoir an Chontae agus a fhoireann, an Preas agus a dhuine naisle.

Ar dtús be mhaith liom mo mheas a chur in iúl diobhse, na baill, as an onóir mór a bhronnadh orm – an deis a thabhairt dom bheith mar Cathaoirleach de Chomhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh.

This past year has been a very special one for me – However, the challenges of that year still remain with us, I did my best to ensure that this Council positioned itself to meet those challenges.

At the beginning of my time as Cathaoirleach I identified priority areas within our remit.

Following a very busy year, I am as enthusiastic as ever about the future of Kilkenny as a creative and progressive county. I will continue to be optimistic that we will emerge from these economically tough times – stronger and more focussed on the truly important values of our time.

As local councillors we are the front line of the political process. We listen to the people, to their worries and concerns and act as a representative conduit between their views and forming policy. I do hope in my time as Cathaoirleach I have contributed to the process of rebuilding trust and confidence in at a local level. I quoted US President Harry Truman before “You can accomplish anything in life provided you don't really mind, who gets the credit” So, I believe we all have to pull together, in partnership, to get things done, particularly for those most vulnerable people in our society.

As a Council we must continue to lead the campaign of recovery, in our way, and provide the environment to attract new industry and business to the county and region a processes we have made many inroads into over the past year.

I wish to thank the members for their support and encouragement and advice given to me throughout the year.

To the officials and staff all over the county for all the good work. Everyday of the past year was in my opinion a highlight. I will share a “taster” few.

- Opening of the N9 final section motorway in August
- Invest Kilkenny and Chinese Website
- Age Friendly County launch and initiative
- International Women’s Day
- St. Patrick’s Week
- The visit of the Queen

It was a truly wonderful year and a special honour to serve the people of Kilkenny as Cathaoirleach.

I hope I have given the position of Cathaoirleach the enthusiasm, the passion and the respect it deserves.

Election of Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach

Item No. 1 Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. Paul Cuddihy was proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty.

Cllr. E. Aylward was proposed by Cllr. C. Long, Seconded by Cllr. M. Doran.

Cllr. P. Millea has paired with Cllr. B. Manning.

Voting for Cllr. P. Cuddihy

Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, M. Shortall, J. Brennan, C. Connery, M. Fitzpatrick, M. Brett, P. Cuddihy, M. Noonan, W. Ireland, T. Maher, P. Crowley, J. Galway, T. Prendergast, M. O’ Brien, F. Doherty, A.M. Irish, T. Breathnach, P. Dunphy.

Voting for Cllr. E. Aylward

Cllrs. A. McGuinness, J. Coonan, M. Doran, S. Treacy, E. Aylward, C. Long.

Cllr. P. Cuddihy received 18 votes

Cllr. E. Aylward received 6 votes

Cllr. P. Cuddihy was elected Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council for the coming year.

Item No. 2 Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

Cllr. T. Maher was proposed by Cllr. M.H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. P. Dunphy.

Cllr. S. Treacy was proposed by Cllr. J. Coonan, Seconded by Cllr. A. McGuinness

Voting for Cllr. T. Maher

Cllrs. Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, M. Shortall, J. Brennan, C. Connery, M. Fitzpatrick, M. Brett, P. Cuddihy, M. Noonan, W. Ireland, T. Maher, P. Crowley, J. Galway, T. Prendergast, M. O' Brien, F. Doherty, A.M. Irish, T. Breathnach, P.Dunphy.

Voting for Cllr. S. Treacy

Cllrs. A. McGuinness, J. Coonan, M. Doran, S. Treacy, E. Aylward, C. Long.

Cllr. T. Maher received 18 votes

Cllr. S. Treacy received 6 votes

Cllr. T. Maher was elected Leas Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council for the coming year.

Incoming Chairman Cllr. P. Cuddihy

I wish to thank my Proposer and Seconder for their kind words. A great honour has been bestowed on me to be chosen as Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council. I will be available to meet members and work with them in the best interests of Co. Kilkenny. I commiserate with Cllr. E. Aylward who was also proposed for the role of Cathaoirleach. During my term as Cathaoirleach I wish to highlight a few matters that I hope will be dealt with during my year in the chair.

- Standing Orders will be adhered to – members to have equal right of access for speaking and questions.
- Enhanced library facilities for the City & South Kilkenny.
- Service Indicators- Review monthly
- Better use of staff and IT resources for meetings
- Enhance the role of CPG and working groups for members.

To finish I wish to highlight the situation in Bahrain for the doctors and nurses who are currently in prison for carrying out medical assistance to this sick. I ask the Minister for Justice to intervene on their behalf.

Cllr. Aylward wished Cllr. Cuddihy success for the forthcoming year and thanked his proposer and seconder. He thanked former chairperson Cllr. Connery for a job well done.

Cllr. T. Maher congratulated Cllr. Cuddihy and told him that he will be available as Leas Cathaoirleach to assist him whenever he is required. Cllr. Maher thanked his proposer and seconder.

Cllr. S. Treacy thanked his proposer and seconder for the proposal to elect him as Leas Cathaoirleach. He wished Cllr. Cuddihy and Maher well in their roles and thanked Cllr. Connery for her year as Cathaoirleach.

Cllrs. O' Brien and Crowley were associated with the tributes paid to Cllr. Connery and wished the incoming Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach well.

Item No. 3. To fix schedule of Ordinary Meetings of the Council.

The following resolution was adopted on the proposal of Cllr. P. Dunphy, Seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty. It is resolved that in addition to the Annual Meetings, Budget Meetings and any additional meetings as may be required by law or by an order by the Court and Special Meetings as may be decided that the Council fix the following schedule of Ordinary meetings of the Council for the coming year:-

18th July 2011
19th September 2011
17th October 2011
21st November 2011
19th December 2011
16th January 2011
20th February 2011
19th March 2011
16th April 2011
21st May 2011
18th June 2011

That concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____