

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 19TH
DECEMBER AT 11.00AM**

Chair: Cllr P Fitzpatrick

Cllrs: J Brennan, McCarthy, P Millea and M Shortall.

Officials: M Delahunty, M Mulholland, N Byrne, P Beuby, C McCarthy & A Phelan

Apologies: Cllr M H Cavanagh

Cllr P Fitzpatrick commenced the meeting by congratulating M Delahunty on his 38 years service achieved today. The contribution provided by M Delahunty to the Local Authority Service during this time was acknowledged by the members.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-

(a) November Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 21st November 2016.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M McCarthy, seconded by Cllr J Brennan and agreed:- "That the minutes of the November Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 21st November 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved."

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

No item was raised

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

(a) Environment

Local Authorities Water & Communities Office (LAWCO)

A Phelan provided a detailed and informative presentation to the members on the Local Authorities Water and Communities Office (LAWCO). The presentation provided details of the role of the new office together with the background to the establishment of the office including the Water Framework Directive adopted by the EU in October 2000 and the three cycles of River Basin Management Plan. Members were advised that public & community participation is a core element of the Water Framework Directive and that the office will be working closely with the PPNs and public representatives to link with the community as well as various other groups on the ground including Fisheries Board, Tidy Towns Committees and Heritage Groups. Members were also advised that the focus of the new office is education and awareness not enforcement.

Members raised a number of issues including the need for flood relief plans for areas prone to flooding and also withdrawal of funding in respect of Goul River Drainage Scheme. A Phelan advised that whilst the office doesn't have a remit regarding flooding, they are co-ordinating closely with the Office of Public Works and welcomed any comments /observations to the office. Details of six public consultation meetings held involving both the Office of Public Works and Kilkenny and Tipperary County Council as joint leading authorities in respect of river Suir were outlined. C McCarthy advised that they are working closely with the Office of Public Works in respect of the Suir River on a number of large and small scale flood relief projects and are looking at natural flood relief projects together with larger engineering projects. M Mulholland welcomed these public consultation meetings which she advised will provide a mechanism for local people with relevant information to get issues on the agenda.

The need for increased funding for group waste water schemes was raised and reference made to recommendations made at recent CPG meeting. C McCarthy advised that this issue would be a valid submission to the Draft River Basin Management Plan which is due for public consultation from December 2016 to June 2017. Details of funding available from LAWCO was discussed and members were advised details of staff available within LAWCO with relevant expertise. M Mulholland welcomed the establishment of LAWCO which, she advised will provide much needed support to many groups currently working in isolation.

C McCarthy and A Phelan were thanked for presentation provided and withdrew from the meeting.

(b) Corporate

- Nomination to Committee on Naming of Structures

MDelahunty sought nominations to Committee on Naming of Structures. Cllr P Fitzpatrick was proposed for the position by Cllr P Millea and was seconded by Cllr J Brennan. Cllr M Shortall proposed himself for the position. The proposal was not seconded.

No other nominations were received.

Cllr P Fitzpatrick was declared nominated to the committee on naming of structures.

- Prohibition of consumption of intoxicating liquor on the streets of Kilkenny and in public places within the City of Kilkenny – new Bye Laws.

MDelahunty outlined for the information of members details of requirement to amend current County bye laws in respect of prohibition of consumption of intoxicating liquor on the streets of Kilkenny and in public places within the

City of Kilkenny. He advised that this is a technical amendment only to existing bye laws and was necessary to ensure the Council did not fall foul of the law in Court. Members were advised that this item was included on the agenda of the December Council meeting. Members raised a number of issues including anti social behaviour and the need to support tourism within Kilkenny.

4. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting
Items submitted by members:-

Cllr M Shortall

(a) **Update on traffic count at The Square, Castlecomer.**

PBeubry advised that he had discussed this issue with the Road Design Office who had confirmed that they had not yet had the opportunity to complete traffic count at the Square, Castlecomer. Members expressed their disappointment at the news and requested that this traffic count be completed as safety at this junction needed to be improved as a matter of urgency. It was agreed that M Mulholland would raise the issue with Director of Services for Roads and revert to Castlecomer Municipal District members.

(b) **Clár 2017.**

Item dealt with prior to meeting.

(c) **Discretionary Salting.**

Item dealt with prior to meeting

5. Notices of Motion

No items were raised.

6. Correspondence

No items were raised.

7. Matters arising from minutes

No items were raised.

8. Any other business

Cllr P Fitzpatrick wished members and officials a happy Christmas and New Year.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____