**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 18th JULY 2016 AT 11.00AM**

**Chair: Cllr P Fitzpatrick**

**Cllrs: J Brennan, M H Cavanagh, M McCarthy, P Millea and M**

**Shortall.**

**Officials: P Beubry, M Delahunty, M Mulholland, N Byrne, A M**

**Walshe & B Mernagh**

**Vote of Sympathy**

Members expressed a vote of sympathy to B Mernagh on his recent bereavement and also in respect of recent tragedies which have taken place across the world, in particular Nice, France.

Members stood in silent prayer and adjourned the meeting for 5 minutes as a mark of respect

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

**Annual General Meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District held on 3rd June 2016**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M McCarthy, seconded by Cllr J Brennan and agreed:- “That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District held on the 3rd of June 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved.”

**June Ordinary Meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District held on 3rd June 2016**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr M Shortall, seconded by Cllr P Millea and agreed:- “That the minutes of the June Ordinary Meeting of Castlecomer Municipal District held on 3rd of June 2016 as circulated with the agenda be and are hereby approved.”

1. **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting.**
2. **Roads**

* **Tranche 2 of Severe Weather Funding**

P Beubry circulated to the members details of works due to be completed at 4 locations under tranche 2 of severe weather funding and dealt with members queries. Members complimented P Beubry on the volume of road works being completed in the Castlecomer Municipal District in 2016 and also raised the issue of difficulties associated with staff shortages in the area.

* **Community Involvement in Road Works Scheme**

N Byrne circulated to the members an updated Community Involvement in Road Works Scheme list. P Beubry advised members details of the 3 laneways which are due for completion under the scheme in 2016 and confirmed that the number to be completed this year is down on the last 2 years as no specific allocation was received in 2016.

A conversation ensued in respect of current status of the Local Improvement Scheme. P Beubry advised members that a specific allocation had not been received from the Department in respect of the Local Improvement Scheme for the past 5 years. He advised that without a specific allocation from the Department works under the Local Improvement Scheme would have to be funded from the discretionary roads allocation received. Members agreed that a letter would be sent to the Department highlighting the significance of the Local Improvement Scheme and requesting that the Department re-instate the provision of a specific allocation. Members also agreed that in the event of a specific allocation not being re-instated, that they as a group would target 1 per year from discretionary funding.

It was agreed members would be furnished with Local Improvement Scheme list for the area.

1. **Housing**

* **Update on Housing Developments**

A M Walsh provided an update on Housing Developments in the area with particular reference to the following developments: The Greens, Glenvale, Haven’s Court, The Steeples, The Paddocks, Foulkscourt, Whitehall, Kellymount and Oakhill for quarter ended 30th June. Members acknowledged and thanked A M Walsh for work undertaken and progress being achieved. There were no applications for grants from the Department under the taking in charge imitative for any development in this municipal district. She advised that bonds are in place for all developments in the Castlecomer Municipal District in the event that works are required and the developer does not engage.

A M Walsh was thanked for information provided and then withdrew from the meeting.

1. **Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

**Items submitted by members:-**

**Cllr J Brennan**

* **Provision of speed ramps at Cois na hAbhainn, Clogh at entrance to Cloneen Hurling Club**

P Beubry advised that a small allocation of €12,500 is available for the provision of ramps / engineering measures in housing estates. P Beubry to investigate location.

* **Need for safety measures on R694 at Finnan, Ballyragget where Old Ballyragget Road joins new road.**

P Beubry advised that he will consider this location for inclusion in Low Cost Safety Schemes for 2017.

* **Traffic calming measures at Tourtane, Clogh.**

P Beubry advised that it is not Council policy to provide ‘Children at Play’ signs, however, he will arrange for the sign to be erected if acquired by community. P Beubry to investigate location.

1. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

No matters were raised.

1. **Any Other Business**

**Galmoy Replacement Water Supply Scheme and Galmoy Group Water Scheme**

Cllr P Fitzpatrick asked that his thanks be noted to Alan Hyland for information and assistance which he provided in respect of ‘Boil Water Notice’. Cllr M H Cavanagh questioned means used by Kilkenny County Council and Irish Water to convey details of boil water notice to customers. M Mulholland advised that regulations are in place which specify how this information must be conveyed. She advised that they do have a customer base, however, details held are a number of years old and therefore weren’t confident sending notice via text would reach all customers. Cllr P Fitzpatrick advised that he had visited approximately 11 houses in Galmoy who complimented how this matter had been dealt with by Kilkenny County Council and Irish Water.

B Mernagh provided members with an up date in respect of the boil water notice. He confirmed that the plant and network had been formally transferred to Irish Water at the end of June 2016. He clarified that the treatment plant will be operated by Irish Water and is currently being operated by contractors on behalf of Irish Water. He advised that Kilkenny County Council will operate the network and until internal resources are freed up, is being operated by the contractors who designed the network on behalf of Kilkenny County Council. B Mernagh advised that testing completed by Irish Water indicated that the accumulation of silt in the reservoir at the water treatment plant over time may have compromised the disinfection of treated water . He advised that the Health Services Executive were notified and following their advice, Irish Water and Kilkenny County Council, as a precautionary measure and pending further investigation, issued a boil water notice on both the public water supply and group water scheme on July 8th. He advised that testing indicated the presence of coliforms. B Mernagh advised that Irish Water is arranging for the cleaning and disinfection to the treated water reservoir which will mean, for a time, customers will be supplied directly from the well and the reservoir by-passed. Members expressed their disappointment that despite a request to Irish Water to attend today’s meeting and previous meetings of Castlecomer Municipal District, Irish Water had not attended. B Mernagh read an email received from Irish Water in this regard. A conversation ensued among the members as to whether they would adjourn Municipal meeting and, as a group attend the next clinic held by Irish Water to raise and discuss this and various other issues of concern. M Mulholland advised that because clinics are less frequent than previously, she has asked Irish Water to contact members directly with updates on this issue. M Mulholland also advised that Irish Water will have responsibility for costs involved to resolve the issue and no money will be taken from the mine closure fund as this is in place to cover replacement of plant in the event of water supply being disconnected.

B Mernagh was thanked for information provided and asked by the members to keep them up to date on this issue. B Mernagh then withdrew from the meeting.

**Prepare schedule of items to be included on future agendas**

Cllr P Fitzpatrick advised members that it is intended to build a schedule of items to be included on agenda of future meetings for the Municipal District and asked members are there any particular items they would like to have included on agenda for the coming year. Cllr M H Cavanagh requested that ‘Leader funding’ be included on the agenda for September meeting. M Delahunty advised that he has arranged for C Goodwin to attend the September meeting. M Mulholland advised details of schedule she considered appropriate which included the following:

* Parks and Public Grounds
* Water Framework Directive and Water Quality
* Local Economic & Community Plan
* Culture, Arts & Heritage
* Housing and Planning, which it is proposed to include quarterly

Cllr P Fitzpatrick advised that it is proposed to build a schedule to allow greater clarity for both the members and the executive. Cllr P Fitzpatrick also advised that he had discussed the issue with C Byrne, Chief Executive who has advised that it will be her policy to attend one meeting of the Municipal District each year.

**Bring Banks Freshford**

The ongoing problem of illegal dumping at Bring Banks in Freshford was raised. Cllr M McCarthy advised that M Good, Environment had confirmed the bottle banks will be returned to their former position once works at the site are completed. Members also raised the issue of the unsightly appearance of bottle banks in general. M Mulholland confirmed that bottle banks are due to be re-presented. Members also raised the issue that in deciding on a suitable location for positioning bottle banks, consideration must be give to whether the location will lend itself to the installation of a cctv at a future date should it be required. M Mulholland advised that this issued will be referred to the appropriate SPC.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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