**Minutes of Meeting of Cavan County Council held on Monday 9th July 2018 in the Council Chamber at 11.00a.m.**

Councillor M. Argue, Cathaoirleach Presiding

Present: Councillors W. Bennett, D. Brady, P. Brady, N. Connell, F. Curtin,

D. Downey, J.P. Feeley, C. Kelly, P. McDonald, P. McVitty,

P. O’Reilly, S. O’Reilly, S.P. O’Reilly, P. Smith, S. Smith, V. Smith

In Attendance: T. Ryan, Chief Executive

D. Maguire, Head of Finance

E. Doyle, Director of Service

J. McLoughlin, Director of Service

B. Jennings, Director of Service

E. McGinn, Meetings Administrator

An apology was received from Councillor Carmel Brady.

**1. To confirm Minutes of Meetings held on 11 June, 2018. Miontuairiscí cruinnithe 11 Meitheamh 2018 a dhearbhu.**

It was:

Proposed by Councillor P. McVitty

Seconded by Councillor S. Smith

And

Resolved:

“that minutes of meetings of Cavan County Council held on 11 June, 2018 be hereby approved”.

**2. Disclosure of Interests** (Section 177 Local Government Act 2001)

Noted.

**Note Minutes of Committee Meetings**

**3. To note Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 10 May 2018.**

Noted.

**To note Members’ Reports from Conferences/Training Events**

**4. To note members’ reports from conferences and training events (Section 142 and Section 143 of the Local Government Act 2001; Local Government (Expenses of Local Authority Members) Regulations 2014 Part V Section 5(1)** Noted.

**Correspondence:**

**5(a). To note reply from Mary Mitchell O’Connor T.D., Minister of State for Higher Education regarding investment in the publicly-funded third level education model as outlined in the Cassells Report.**

Noted.

**(b). To note reply from Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding the Forestry Programme.**

Noted. Councillor J.P. Feeley noted that there will be a new forestry programme in 2021 which will be subject to public consultation. Councillor J.P. Feeley asked that Cavan County Council make a strong submission and voice their concerns in relation to forestry.

**Roads funding**

Councillor C. Kelly asked that the Council re-write to Minister Shane Ross in relation to meeting with a delegation with regards to roads funding.

**School Transport.**

Councillor J.P. Feeley asked that the Council re-write to Minister Richard Bruton asking that he meet with a delegation in relation to the school transport system.

**6. To approve attendance of members at MacGill Summer School to be held in Glenties, Co. Donegal from 22-27 July.**

**To approve attendance of members at Parnell Summer School to be held in Avondale, Co. Wicklow from 12-16 August.**

It was:

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

And

Resolved:

“that the attendance of Councillors P. O’Reilly, P. McVitty, C. Brady, W. Bennett, S.P. O’Reilly, S. Smith, C. Kelly, P. Brady, J.P. Feeley, S. O’Reilly and F. Curtin at MacGill Summer School 2018 be hereby approved”.

“that the attendance of Councillors V. Smith and P. O’Reilly at the Parnell Summer School be hereby approved.”

**To hear presentation from Ms. Maria Goretti Moylan who is hoping to stand as a nominee in the forthcoming Presidential Election.**

Councillor M. Argue welcomed Ms. Maria Goretti Moylan to the meeting.

Ms. Moylan thanked Cavan County Council for affording her the opportunity to make a presentation to the members as to why she is looking for their nomination in standing as a Presidential candidate in the forthcoming Presidential Election. Ms. Moylan informed the members that she is from Athlone, Co. Westmeath. Ms. Moylan asked the members to consider nominating her for President of Ireland.

Councillors P. McDonald, P. O’Reilly and J.P. Feeley thanked Ms. Moylan for taking time out of her busy schedule to address them and stated that Cavan County Council will give due consideration in the future to nominating a candidate.

**Motion No. 17**

**That Cavan County Council, in accordance with Section 16(1) of the Presidential Elections Act, 1993 and Article 12.4.2 of Bunreacht na hEireann convene a meeting within seven days of the signing of the Presidential Election Order by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, to allow Cavan County Council give consideration to the exercise of our legislative and constitutional prerogative to nominate a candidate to contest the election of the Office of President of Ireland.**

Councillor J.P. Feeley called on Cavan County Council to convene a meeting within seven days of the signing of the Presidential Election Order in order to allow the members of Cavan County Council give consideration to exercising their legislative and constitutional prerogative to nominate a candidate to contest the election of the Office of President of Ireland.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly seconded Councillor J.P. Feeley’s proposal. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that it is their duty as elected representatives on behalf of the people of County Cavan to nominate a candidate for President of Ireland. He stated that nominating a candidate should not be confined to Oireachtas members or the leader of a Party. He stated that if Cavan County Council feel a person is capable and electable then they should be nominated by the members.

**7. To hear presentation from Dr. Emer Coveney on Age Friendly Programme.**

Councillor M. Argue welcomed Dr. Emer Coveney and Mr. Bob Gilbert, Cavan Older People’s Council to the meeting.

Dr. Coveney made a presentation to the members on Cavan Age Friendly Programme – the journey so far. Dr. Coveney stated that Cavan’s Age Friendly Programme is part of the World Health Organisation’s global network. Mr. Bob Gilbert spoke on Cavan Older People’s Councils and informed the members of the work and projects being carried out by Cavan Older People’s Council. Mr. Gilbert stated that an age friendly world enables people of all ages to actively participate in community activities and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age.

The members in turn thanked Dr. Coveney and Mr. Gilbert for their presentations.

**Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council.**

**8. To approve the replacement nominee from Public Participation Network, Mr. Bob Gilbert to Cavan Local Community and Development Committee under Section 128C(3)(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.**

It was:

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor P. Smith

And

Resolved:

“that the replacement nominee from Public Participation Network, Mr. Bob Gilbert to Cavan Local Community and Development Committee under Section 128C(3)(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 be hereby approved”.

**9. To adopt the Walking and Cycling Strategy for County Cavan on the recommendation of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee.**

It was:

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor C. Kelly

And

Resolved:

“that the Walking and Cycling Strategy for County Cavan on the recommendation of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee be hereby adopted”.

Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service informed the members that the strategy would build on progress made in recent years concerning investment under the Smarter Travel Programme. Mr. Jennings stated that for the strategy the Council sought the assistance of Mr. Bill Murphy formerly from Coillte who with his team undertook the task of travelling through the County to analyse the cycling and walking trails. Mr. Jennings stated that the strategy was to serve only as a set of guidelines or blueprint for the development of such cycling and walking trails, outlining the importance of community ownership in terms of management and future upkeep.

**10. To note Financial Report for quarter ending 31 March 2018.**

Noted.

**11. To note Chief Executive’s Orders (Section 151(4) Local Government Act 2001).**

Noted.

**12. To note Chief Executive’s monthly report (Section 51 Local Government Reform Act 2014).**

Noted.

**Kingscourt Water Supply**

Councillor C. Kelly stated that he is receiving numerous complaints from residents in the Kingscourt area about the appearance of dark coloured flecks in water from taps while pipes entering some homes are being clogged by limescale. Councillor Kelly requested that the Council analyse the bottled water brought by him to the meeting from his own tap to see if there are health warnings in it. Councillor Kelly noted that as a result of the discoloured water there was no bottled water to be purchased in the shops in Kingscourt over the weekend. Councillor Kelly stated that something needs to be done urgently and praised Mr. Paddy Connaughton, A/Senior Engineer for his efforts in helping the people of Kingscourt as Irish Water were not very forthcoming.

Councillors P. McDonald and V. Smyth supported the motion.

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, Director of Service informed the members that the Kingscourt Water supply was upgraded in May 2018 with a new treatment facility. He stated that the plant is producing water inside the drinking water regulations. Mr. McLoughlin advised that the appearance of particles in the water could be down to manganese in the supply. Mr. McLoughlin stated that the Council would have the bottled water brought to the meeting by Councillor Kelly tested and analysed. Mr. McLoughlin stated that they are currently sourcing the network to find a solution.

**Votes of Sympathy:**

Mr. Seamus McLoughlin, Housing Construction on the death of his mother Mrs. Maura McLoughlin.

**Votes of Congratulations:**

* Former Councillor Eugene Greenan on his marriage to Ms. Ciara Farrell.
* The people of Wurzburg for the hospitality shown to the Ballyjamesduff MD delegation, Cathaoirleach and Chief Executive during their visit last weekend. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that the relics of St. Killian may come home and this potential move comes following the appointment last year of Franz Jung as Bishop of Wurzburg. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly also informed the meeting that approximately 60 visitors from Wurzburg are expected to visit Mullagh in August.
* Former Councillor Danny Brady and his wife Lily on the celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

. **MEMBERS’ ITEMS – DEFERRED FROM JUNE MEETING**

**1. Calling on the Department of An Taoiseach to reaffirm the stance of Irish neutrality in light of the recent statements in regard to the expulsion of Russian Diplomats from Ireland.**

Councillor D. Downey criticised the expulsion of Russian diplomats even before the investigation into the Novichok poisonings in Salisbury had barely begun, an investigation which has yet not reached any definitive conclusion. Councillor Downey noted that between 2009-2014, trade with Russia increased by 500% accounting for almost €100 million of agri-exports, particularly beef. Councillor Downey stated that it is a quick assumption to make in light of no conclusion to any investigations. Councillor D. Downey proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Department of An Taoiseach to reaffirm the stance of Irish neutrality in light of recent statements in regard to the expulsion of Russian Diplomats from Ireland. Councillor Downey noted that as a small and proudly independent nation our neutrality is our greatest weapon and defence.

Councillor P. McDonald seconded Councillor Downey’s proposal.

Councillors N. Connell and J.P. Feeley supported the motion.

**2. To ask Cavan County Council to outline the criteria being used in determining the roads to be completed under the Local Improvement Scheme.**

Councillor V. Smith stated that the criteria being used by Cavan County Council in relation to determining the roads to be completed under the Local Improvement Scheme needs to be changed. He stated that lanes at the top of the list from 2008 may have fewer people living on them that a lane placed further down the list that is in more need of repair. Councillor V. Smith stated that it should be up to the Engineer in each Municipal District to decide what lanes are in need of repair.

Councillor F. Curtin stated that the upkeep of laneways is vital to rural economies. Councillor Curtin stated that an increase in LIS funding is greatly needed as it could take close to 20 years or more to get through the list.

Councillor P. O’Reilly supported the motion stating that there was a lack of ambition by the Council in applying for funding when it was made available towards the end of last year, when other local authorities applied for greater sums.

Councillor J.P. Feeley supported the motion stating that it was disgraceful the way the Department announced funding at the end of the year and expected it to be spent immediately.

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, Director of Services stated that the process of fixing lanes in order of application was examined recently by members of the Strategic Policy Committee who decided the system should be maintained. Mr. McLoughlin stated that if it were to change then those people whose application is in since 2008 would be ignored and this would be regrettable. Mr. McLoughlin stated that if the level of funding applied for at present be supported going forward, 30 lanes could be dealt with per year, which could see the current list cleared in four to five years.

**3. To ask Cavan County Council what Bye-Laws are in place for the control of dogs in public places.**

Councillor M. Argue stated that it had been brought to her attention that small dogs do not need to be on a lead while walking in public places but bigger dogs must be on a lead. Councillor Argue also asked if bigger dogs need to be muzzled as they can be very intimidating when let loose through a park.

Councillor P. Smith stated that dog owners can often be found ignoring signs to clean up after their pets and stated that bye-laws need to be strongly enforced.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly supported the motion stating that it terrible to see dog faeces on footpaths where people in wheelchairs and buggies have to travel.

Councillors D. Downey, P. McDonald and C. Kelly supported the motion.

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, Director of Service stated that the control of dogs is dealt with under the Control of Dogs Act 1986. He stated that there is a €100 on the spot fine for the owner of dogs found roaming in public places. Mr. McLoughlin stated that education was the best way forward and the Council had invested in a newly launched “Save our Soles” campaign. He stated that the provision of more dog foul bins is also on the cards as is signage.

**4. CAP Budget.**

Councillor S. Smith proposed that the Council write to the Minister for Agriculture, An Taoiseach and Mr. Phil Hogan, European Commissioner to bring forward strong proposals in relation to the need to protect CAP funding. Councillor S. Smith stated that farmers here would find it very challenging to deal with a 5% cut in CAP funding, for many these payments are essential and are the difference between remaining viable and being forced out of business. He stated that the cut would be particularly tough, given the fact that they had to make difficult decisions after the 10% cut which was applied under the 2014-2020 CAP deal. Councillor S. Smith stated that unless the CAP budget is retained, it will have major financial difficulty for our farmers and primary producers.

Councillor W. Bennett seconded Councillor S. Smith’s proposal. Councillor W. Bennett acknowledged that Commissioner Phil Hogan is fighting a hard battle to hold on to what we have. Councillor Bennett stated that the greatest failing of CAP down through the years was that it was never index linked to keep in line with inflation.

Councillors J.P. Feeley and P. O’Reilly supported the motion.

**5. That a programme of maintenance of monuments to those who participated in the War of Independence be put in place.**

Councillor S. Smith asked that Cavan County Council engage in a programme of maintenance of monuments to those who participated in the War of Independence. Councillor S. Smith noted that some graves have been neglected for various reasons.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly supported the motion stating that more should be done to preserve the final resting place of those who had helped create the path of freedom enjoyed by many today.

Councillors D. Downey and J.P. Feeley supported the motion.

Mr. Eoin Doyle, Director of Service informed the members that the Council will examine and carry out an audit of monuments including grave sites in the County and any sites that are in disrepair will have work done on them to preserve them for future generations.

**6. This motion calls on Cavan County Council to work with Cavan Institute and the other key partners in regard to suicide in the area to evaluate and assess the suicide numbers locally.**

Councillor D. Brady proposed that Cavan County Council work with Cavan Institute and other key partners in regard to suicide in the area in order to evaluate and assess the suicide numbers locally. Councillor D. Brady acknowledged the work done by Dr. Emer Coveney within Cavan County Council in organising SafeTalk Courses for employees and elected members. Councillor D. Brady stated that suicide is a very delicate subject which has touched the lives of many. Councillor D. Brady acknowledged the work done by SOSAD.

Councillor D. Downey seconded Councillor D. Brady’s proposal. Councillor D. Downey also acknowledged the work being done by SOSAD, Living Links and Pieta House but criticized that in Cavan-Monaghan with a combined population of close to 140,000 people there is just one case worker available.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that he is a member of the suicide prevention group with the HSE and Cavan has one of the highest rates of suicide per capita in Europe. He stated that for many years there has been a huge issue with people not speaking out in relation to mental health issues and he congratulated Councillors D. Brady and D. Downey for their bravery is sharing their story with the meeting. Councillor S. P. O’Reilly paid tribute to the Green Ribbon Campaign and expressed his delight to hear the Minister for Education had announced the training of two teachers through the National Educational Psychological Service. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly praised Cavan General Hospital stating that this hospital operates one of the best on call services in the Country.

Councillor P. Brady supported the motion. Councillor P. Brady suggested focusing on educating students at secondary school level rather than waiting until they go to College.

Councillor P. Smith suggested that all the different suicide groups in the County come together to form one overall group and also that the Council lobby the HSE to make social workers available from 5pm on a Friday evening until 9am on a Monday morning as these are the prime times for suicide to occur.

Councillors C. Kelly, P. McVitty, P. O’Reilly, W. Bennett, S. O’Reilly, J.P. Feeley, S. Smith and V. Smith supported the motion.

Councillor D. Downey proposed that the Council invite Ms. Emer Mulligan, Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention, Cavan-Monaghan to make a presentation to the members before Christmas.

This proposal was supported unanimously by all members.

It was agreed that Cavan County Council write to Ms. Emer Mulligan inviting her to make a presentation to the members.

**7. That Cavan County Council calls on housing agencies and homeless charities to engage with local authorities before locating clients in housing units in the County.**

Councillor J.P. Feeley acknowledged the work being done by Cavan County Council in protecting their reputation for social housing. He noted that Cavan County Council are careful and ensure that people are allocated houses appropriate to them. Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that the conduct of some housing agencies in some parts of the Country bring the housing allocation system into disrepute. Councillor J.P. Feely proposed that Cavan County Council call on housing agencies and homeless charities to engage with local authorities before locating clients in housing units in the County. Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that some people are being placed by housing agencies in local housing with little or no life skills, resources or supports to ensure a successful integration into the respective communities.

Councillor D. Downey seconded Councillor Feeley’s proposal. Councillor Downey stated that engagement was urgently needed on a wholesome strategy that would benefit families in need, but also communities.

Councillor P. McVitty supported the motion.

Mr. Eoin Doyle, Director of Service stated that Cavan County Council works in a close and coordinated approach with statutory and approved housing bodies regarding placements and available supports.

**8. That Cavan County Council develop a strategy for the promotion of the Irish language including employing an Irish Language Officer.**

Councillor J.P. Feeley acknowledged the good work of the Council in promoting the Irish language in its Annual Report. He stated that this work is valued by those who are involved through other organisations in promoting the Irish language. Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that Irish is a thriving language and growing nationally. Councillor J.P. Feeley noted that there are more people speaking Irish in the Country since the Famine. Councillor J.P. Feely complimented Comhairle na nOg on winning a national award for their Pop Up Gaeltacht. Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that more Irish Scholarships should be provided by the Council to second level students. Councillor Feeley felt that the Council should have an Irish Officer who would work with local communities in promoting the Irish Langauge. Councillor Feeley stated that as road signs are being replaced they should be renamed in Irish as well as English.

Councillor P. McDonald supported the motion stating that it was important to promote our national language.

Councillor S. Smith noted that those who won scholarships from the Council to the Gaeltacht were only able to go to a Gaeltacht in Donegal and felt they should have the opportunity to go where they wished.

Councillor S. O’Reilly supported the motion. Councillor S. O’Reilly was of the opinion that interactive workshops through Irish should be carried out in our libraries throughout the County.

Ms. Lynda McGavigan, Senior Executive Officer informed the members that the Irish Language has been an integral part of many of the Council’s event programmes and is particular to the fore in the provision of cultural services, interwoven into all the major events such as Bliain na Gaeilge, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Club Leabhar, Comhrá, Gaeltacht Scholarships, Oral Irish workshops, Bealtaine Culture Night, Children’s Books Festival and schools programmes. Ms. McGavigan noted that 2018 is Bliain na Gaeilge and the Council’s Irish Officer is working with Comhairle na nOg to deliver a programme of events for a POP UP Gaeltacht in Castle Saunderson. Ms. McGavigan stated that the Council works in partnership with various Irish Organisations to provide a wide range of Irish language events annually and outlined in great detail the different events run by the Council in connection with these Organisations to promote the Irish language. Ms. McGavigan informed the members that the Council is currently reviewing its strategy with a view to further promotion of the Irish language not only in the Bliain na Gaeilge but in years to come. Ms. McGavigan stated that the Council proposes to draft a scheme in accordance with the Official Languages Act 2003 and has recently invited submission/representations from interested parties through an advertisement in the local and national press and on the Council’s website. She stated that the latest date for submissions/representations for the draft scheme is 5.00p.m. on 27th July 2018.

**9. That Cavan County Council discuss Cavan Council’s financial reserves.**

Councillor P. O’Reilly asked that the €2.5million reserves be discussed.

Mr. Des Maguire, Head of Finance outlined in great detail the position in relation to reserves accumulated by the Council over the years. Mr. Maguire noted that the Annual Financial Statement 2017, Addition to Revenue Expenditure 2017, Transfer to Capital 2017 and Statement of Rate Collection 2017 were all approved by the members at the June meeting.

**10. To ask Cavan County Council for clarification on position regarding GDPR and Councillors.**

Councillor P. McVitty called on Cavan County Council to clarify the position of Councillors with regards to General Data Protection Regulations. Councillor P. McVitty felt that under the new legislation, Councillors cannot represent the issues of constitutents in the same way as before the legislation came into effect. He stated that it was very unfair that he could no longer raise the concerns of locals without first getting written consent to act on their behalf. Councillor P. McVitty thanked Mr. Doyle, Director of Service for arranging the presentation to the members on GDPR but felt it needed to be explained more to the members.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that Articles 38, 39 and 40 are the articles that provide a path through which elected members are entitled to request certain information. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that the AILG are meeting in Mullagh and it is hoped that a one page document of do’s and don’ts will be formulated at National Level and circulated to all members. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly thanked Mr. Tommy Ryan, CE for providing a confidential shredding service to the members.

Councillor D. Downey stated that while the GDPR is very complex it remained essential that it should not serve in any way to disenfranchise the democratic process.

Mr. Eoin Doyle, Director of Service stated that the Act is complex and the Council is currently waiting on clarification on many issues. He stated that the members will be notified once this is received. Mr. Doyle stated that each elected member in his/her own right is a data controller. Mr. Doyle stated that all reasonable steps must be taken when dealing with personal data. Mr. Doyle stated that further training would be provided to both Councillors and Staff.

**11. That Cavan County Council call for urgent action by Government to deal with the growing cost of insurance especially for young drivers.**

Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that the growing cost of insurance especially for young drivers is ridiculous. Councillor J.P. Feeley also stated that it is not good enough that Irish people returning from abroad are unable to carry their no claims bonus from their driving experience abroad. Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that it is unacceptable that some insurance companies are refusing to provide quotes on vehicles of a certain vintage, an issue that not only effects rural dwellers but also young people unable to meet the cost of purchasing a new car. Councillor J.P. Feeley demanded more transparency where claims were settled outside of court by insurance companies and not via the Personal Injuries Assessment Board. Councillor J.P. Feeley proposed that the Council call on the Government to deal with the growing cost of insurance especially for young drivers.

Councillor S. P. O’Reilly seconded the proposal and welcomed the entry of new underwriters into the market which may help young drivers.

Councillor W. Bennett supported the motion and noted that there was a dramatic difference in the cost of insurance both sides of the border.

Councillors P. Smith, F. Curtin and P. McVitty supported the motion.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS – JULY MEETING**

**Items referred to Cavan County Council from Ballyjamesduff MD**

**20. That Cavan County Council provides an undertaking to commence an assessment of the Virginia, Ballyjamesduff to Finea road with particular attention to be given to urgent works required at Dunancory Bridge.**

Councillor W. Bennett stated that at the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District meeting the members discussed the road from Virginia to Ballyjamesduff to Finea with particular attention to be given to urgent works required at Dunancory Bridge. Councillor W. Bennett stated that the previous engineer in Ballyjamesduff gave a commitment to do this road and wondered if this still stands now that there is a new engineer appointed to the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District.

Councillor P. O’Reilly stated that the road between Virginia and Finea, through Killyfassy Cross is chaotic at this present time with low lying trees causing dangerous driving conditions for HGVs. Councillor P. O’Reilly also stated that work was needed urgently on Dunancory Bridge and requested a quarterly update on what progress had been made on the plans to rectify issues in the locality be given to the elected members.

Councillors P. Smith and N. Connell supported the motion.

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, Director of Service stated that the Council had attained funding to begin an appraisal of works at Dunancory Bridge with the results to be sent to the Department with a view to accessing funding in 2019. Mr. McLoughlin proposed that when the Council is examining its three year work programme starting in 2019, that the route linking Virginia, Ballyjamesduff to Finea be included and earmarked for a significant portion of resources available. Mr. McLoughlin stated that this would be up to the elected members when examining the programme.

**21. Update on Virginia Fire Station.**

Councillor P. O’Reilly requested an update on Virginia Fire Station. Councillor P. O’Reilly asked why after the initial two interested contractors pulled out was the contract not offered to tenders further down the list instead of re-advertising.

Councillor P. Smith asked for an update on the Ballyjamesduff Fire Station.

Mr. Des Maguire, Head of Finance informed Councillor P. O’Reilly that a contractor has been secured and work is expected to begin very soon on the Fire Station. He stated that negotiations in relation to bonds, insurance and health and safety are near conclusion and Cavan County Council is confident of being in a position to sign off on the project in the coming weeks. Mr. Maguire stated that he would check the position in relation to Ballyjamesduff Fire Station and revert back to Councillor P. Smith.

**Motions submitted by members**

**12. That Cavan County Council supports the ongoing efforts for a public enquiry into the circumstances of the death of Shane O’Farrell.**

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly called on Cavan County Council to fully support a Carrickmacross family in their ongoing efforts for a public enquiry into the circumstances of the death of Shane O’Farrell. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that on the evening of 2nd August 2011 Mr. O’Farrell was cycling home from work when he was hit by a foreign nationalist who failed to stop at the scene of the accident. Councillor O’Reilly stated that the foreign nationalist had previous convictions for offences including aggravated burglary, road traffic offences and handling stolen property. Councillor O’Reilly stated that two weeks before the collision he was arrested in Newry for three counts of theft and the day he struck Mr. O’Farrell he had been on bail from courts in both Monaghan and Cavan. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that the accused was handed an eight month sentence for dangerous driving causing death but it was suspended on the basis that he would leave the Country within 21 days. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly proposed that Cavan County Council write to An Taoiseach offering unanimous support for a public enquiry into the circumstances of the death of Shane O’Farrell.

Councillors N. Connell, P. O’Reilly and F. Curtin supported the motion.

**13. That Cavan County Council provide an update on Local Improvement Scheme.**

Councillor S. O’Reilly asked the executive to provide her with the number of applications for LIS in the Bailieborough Cootehill Municipal District that have yet to be dealt with and if there is an allocation of money in place to do some of this lanes.

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, Director of Service informed Councillor S. O’Reilly that he did not have a breakdown of figure per Municipal District but there are in the region of 140 schemes yet to be assessed in the County. He stated there are 30 lanes on the assessed list and the Council stopped doing assessments when the scheme finished in 2009. Mr. McLoughlin informed the members that an allocation of €295,000 was received for the current year which will complete 6 lanes and the Council have applied for funding of €1.8m to complete a further 24 lanes. The breakdown of the twenty four lanes per municipal district is 9 for Bailieborough Cootehill, 5 in Cavan Belturbet and 10 in Ballyjamesduff. Mr. McLoughlin stated that schemes vary in cost from €14,000 to €212,000 with the average between €50,000 and €70,000.

**14. That Cavan County Council provide a means of facilitating local charities at its Bring Sites.**

Councillor S. O’Reilly stated that she was shocked to see a notice in the Parish Bulletin where Cavan County Council had instructed the charity organisation SVP to remove their clothes bin from the Tesco Car Park in Bailieborough. Councillor S. O’Reilly stated that there had been a verbal agreement with the Council to remove the one in Mullagh and keep the one in Bailieborough. Councillor S. O’Reilly stated that the SVP bin has provided the Society with valuable donations for the local community. Councillor S. O’Reilly stated that asking the organisation to remove their bins is putting the shop at risk of closing. Councillor S. O’Reilly proposed that Cavan County Council provide a means of facilitating local charities at its Bring Sites.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly seconded Councillor S. O’Reilly’s proposal.

Councillor C. Kelly stated that it is disgraceful that we as a local authority would not allow SVP have their bins at the Council’s bring centre. Councillor C. Kelly asked the CE Mr. Tommy Ryan to review the situation.

Councillors P. Smith, J.P. Feeley, F. Curtin and P. McDonald supported the motion.

Mr. Joe McLoughlin, Director of Service stated that as of now the Council does not have the space to facilitate additional charities at our network of bring centres. He stated that there are health and safety issues and more bins will attract additional illegal dumping. Mr. McLoughlin stated that the Council may have to consider reduction in bring centres due to increased cost of maintenance and ongoing misuse by a small minority of people. Mr. McLoughlin noted that a number of tidy towns groups have consistently raised the issues of illegal dumping at bring centres in their own areas. Mr. McLoughlin stated that there is also an option there for charities to tender for such a service.

Councillor S. O’Reilly stated that most local charities will not be in a position to tender for such a service and asked that the Council give this issue special consideration.

Items 15, 16, 18 and 19 were deferred.

The meeting concluded at 5.15p.m.

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

Certified Correct: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_