**Minutes of Meeting of Cavan County Council held in The Hotel Kilmore on**

**Monday 14th June 2021 at 2.00p.m.**

Councillor S. O’Reilly, Cathaoirleach presiding

Present; Councillors M. Argue, W. Bennett, C. Brady, P. Brady, B. Fay,

A. Fitzpatrick, J.P. Feeley, C. Kelly, C. Lovett, P. McDonald, P. McVitty,

S. P. O’Reilly, T.P. O’Reilly, S. Smith, T. Smith, V. Smith, P. Walsh.

In Attendance; T. Ryan, Chief Executive

 E. Doyle, Director of Service

 P. Connaughton, Director of Service

 B. Jennings, Director of Service

 M. McNally, A/Head of Finance

 L. McGavigan, Senior Administrative Officer

 E. McGinn, Senior Staff Officer

Councillor S. O’Reilly welcomed all to the meeting.

1. **To confirm Minutes of Monthly Meetings held on 10th May and 24 May 2021.**

**Miontuaririsci cruinnithe 10 agus 24 Bealtaine a dhearbhu.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor C. Lovett

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of meeting of Cavan County Council held on 10 and 24 May 2021 be hereby approved”

1. **Disclosures of Interests (Section 177 Local Government Act 2001)**

Noted.

**Note Minutes of Committee Meetings**

1. **To note Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 8 April 2021.**

Noted.

**4. To note Minutes of Strategic Policy Meeting on Housing, Social Inclusion and**

 **Corporate Services held on 4 December 2020.**

Noted.

**Note Members’ Reports from Conferences / Training events**

**5. 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**

**6(i) To note reply from Michael McGrath, T.D., Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform regarding the confiscation of monies under the Proceeds of Crime Acts 1996-2016 and the redirection to local services.**

Noted.

 **(ii) To note replies from the Office of the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and Failte Ireland regarding the inclusion of non-food serving pubs in outdoor seating funding schemes.**

Noted.

 **(iii) To note reply from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage regarding the Land Development Agency Bill.**

Noted.

 **(iv) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to the appointment of an Independent Meat Regulator.**

Noted.

Councillor P. McVitty asked that a further letter be sent to the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Agriculture in relation to extra funding for the Local Improvement Scheme.

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

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

Noted.

**8. In accordance with Section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, adoption of the 2020 Annual Report.**

It was:

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley

and

Resolved

“that the 2020 Annual Report under Section 221 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended be hereby approved”

**9. Approval of LEADER Cooperation project (Masterplans) agreement between**

 **Cavan County Council and Monaghan County Council in accordance with Section**

 **85 of the Local Government Act 2001.**

**Approval of LEADER Cooperation project (Signage) Section 85 agreement between Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council and Louth County Council in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001.**

 It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor T.P. O’Reillyá

and

Resolved

“that the LEADER Cooperation project (Masterplan) agreement between Cavan County Council and Monaghan County Council and LEADER Cooperation project (Signage) agreement between Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council and Louth County Council in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2021 be hereby approved”.

**10. Approval for Local Property Tax Meeting to form part of the Council Meeting on**

 **Monday 12th July 2021.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor P. McVitty

and

Resolved

“that the Local Property Tax meeting to form part of the Council meeting on Monday 12th July 2021 be hereby approved”.

**Votes of Sympathy**

* The McGovern and Taite Families, Doon, Virginia on the death of Annette McGovern, former employee of Ramor Theatre, Cavan County Council.
* The Sheridan Family, Lavey on the death of Brian Sheridan former employee Cavan County Council.
* Siobhan Morgan, employee Cavan County Council and the Dempsey Family on the death of their father Shane Dempsey, Drumalee.

**Votes of Congratulations:**

* Cavan County Council on securing €6.5m for West Cavan tourism facilities. The members noted that the development will mean so much to the people who have been advocating the importance of developing the tourism potential of the Shannon Pot. The members commended the executive on the quality of the application made to secure the funding from Fáilte Ireland.
* Mullagh Community Hub on receiving €63,680 in funding from Sports Partnership along with Belturbet Activity Hub and Kilnaleck Activity Hub. This is the first grant aid under this Scheme for Mullagh and the community spirit in Mullagh is very evident with their Sports Centre and Community Park.
* Cavan Senior Camogie Team on reaching the All-Ireland Final against Roscommon on Saturday 19th July.
* St. Mary’s National School, Ballyhaise on securing funding to provide additional accommodation to include a new classroom with en-suite facilities.
* Coláiste Dún An Rí Kingscourt on securing extra funding for extension works to be carried out at the College.
* Cavan County Council on purchasing the Town and Country Pub on Bailieborough’s Main Street which will allow for the future expansion of the public carpark to the rear of the building and in doing so will open up the potential for future strategic revitalization of the town centre.
* Cavan County Council on securing over €850,000 to install outdoor social spaces throughout the County to allow businesses such as pubs, restaurants and cafes to open.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS**

 **7. To ask Cavan County Council to call on the Minister for Health and the Minister for Older People to urgently review the visiting restrictions for long-term patients in our hospitals.**

Councillor A. Fitzpatrick proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Older People to urgently review the visiting restrictions for long-term patients in our hospitals. Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that he was aware of a case where a patient was admitted to hospital before Christmas and had to stay for five weeks in hospital and during that time no visitors were allowed to visit the patient. He stated that unfortunately this person passed away two hours before discharge and the family never got to say goodbye to her. He stated that restrictions imposed due to Covid must not remove the rights of the vulnerable people to engage with visitors. He stated that being the son or a daughter of a loved one in hospital and being told you are not allowed to visit is extremely stressful on both patient and those loved ones on the outside.

 Councillor J.P. Feeley seconded Councillor Fitzpatrick’s proposal stating that it is hugely distressing for families to not be allowed see their loved ones.

 The members unanimously supported the motion.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS – DEFERRED FROM MAY MEETING**

1. **To call on the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and the Minister for Social Protection to immediately introduce employment supports for hackney and taxi licence holders during the Covid-19 pandemic.**

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and the Minister for Social Protection to immediately introduce employment supports for hackney and taxi licence holders during the Covid 19 pandemic. Councillor O’Reilly stated that taxi and hackney drivers are being reimbursed NCT charges and licence charges which only amounts to about €400. He stated that due to no socialising taxi and hackney drivers have no work and those over sixty-six or self-employed do not qualify for pandemic unemployment payment.

Councillor T. Smith seconded Councillor S.P. O’Reilly’s proposal. He stated that it costs about €20,000 in overheads to run a taxi business and taxi drivers need to be supported during this pandemic.

All members unanimously supported the motion.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS – JUNE MEETING**

**2. That Cavan County Council provide an update on the North South Interconnector.**

Councillor C. Kelly asked the Director of Service, Mr. Brendan Jennings if there had been any communication or discussions between Cavan County Council and Eirgrid or ESB in relation to the North South Interconnector.

 Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service informed the members that since the last Council meeting there had been no correspondence from Eirgrid or ESB in relation to the North South Interconnector. He informed the members that Padraig O’Reilly, NEPPC will make a presentation to the members at the July meeting.

Councillor C. Kelly welcomed the news that NEPPC are making a presentation to the members.

**3. That Cavan County Council ask the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage when the report into the tenant purchase scheme will be published and if the issues relating to income from social welfare and persons over the age of seventy being allowed to purchase a local authority house will be addressed.**

Councillor T. Smith proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage asking when the report into the tenant purchase scheme will be published and if the issues in relation to income from social welfare and persons over the age of seventy being allowed to purchase a local authority house will be addressed. He noted that the current tenant purchase scheme is in existence since 2016 and the uptake on the scheme is very low. He stated that a review was to take place in 2018 and a report is yet to be published.

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly seconded Councillor T. Smith’s proposal.

All members unanimously supported the motion.

Mr. Eoin Doyle, Director of Service stated that the scheme has been raised with senior department officials who are working on the review.

**Items 4,5, and 6 were deferred to the July meeting.**

**The meeting concluded at 2.55p.m**

**Certified Correct: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**