**Minutes of Meeting of Cavan County Council held in The Council Chamber, Courthouse, Cavan on Monday 11th July, 2022 at 2.00p.m.**

Councillor J.P. Feeley, Cathaoirleach presiding

Present; Councillors M. Argue, W. Bennett, P. Brady, C. Brady, A. Fitzpatrick,

B. Fay, C. Kelly, C. Lovett, P. McDonald, P. McVitty, S. O’Reilly,

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

In Attendance; T. Ryan, Chief Executive

 B. Jennings, Director of Service

 P. Connaughton, Director of Service

 E. Doyle, Director of Service (online)

 M. McNally, A/Head of Finance (online)

 E. McGinn, Senior Staff Officer

Councillor J.P. Feeley welcomed all to the meeting.

1. **To confirm Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 13th June 2022.**

 **Miontuaririsci cruinnithe 13 Meitheamh a dhearbhu.**

 It was

 Proposed by Councillor P. McVitty

 Seconded by Councillor T.P. O’Reilly

And

Resolved;

 “that minutes of meeting of Cavan County Council held on 13 June 2022 be hereby approved”

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

 Noted**.**

1. **To note Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 9 May 2022**

Noted.

1. **To hear presentation from Padraig O’Beirne, Chair of Cavan Monaghan Connecting for Life Steering Group.**

Ms. Emer Mulligan, HSE Cavan Monaghan Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention gave a detailed presentation to the members in relation to Connecting for Life Cavan and Monaghan 2022-2024 Suicide Prevention Plan. Mr. Padraig O’Beirne, Area Director of Nursing, Cavan Monaghan Mental Health Service and Chair of Connecting Life Cavan Monaghan did not attend the meeting. Ms. Mulligan stated that the vision for the Connecting for Life Action Plan is for an Ireland where fewer lives are lost through suicide, and where communities and individuals area empowered to improve their mental health and wellbeing. She stated that there are seven strategic goals and sixty-nine actions in the plan. She noted that the seven goals are improved understanding, empowered communities, focus on priority groups, better access support, high quality services, reduced access to means and better data and research. Ms. Mulligan noted that the suicide rates for 2020 and 2021 provisional (based on year of registration as opposed to occurrence) and subject to change saw Cavan fall from first in the Country during 2016-2018 to third in the Country for 2019-2021 which unfortunately is still very high. She stated that she has been involved in the planning and engagement process with key local stakeholders facilitated during 2015 and 2016 in order to draft the Connecting for Life Cavan Monaghan Suicide Prevention Action Plan. She noted that the Plan was launched in June 2017 and is fully aligned with the National Suicide Prevention Strategy – Connecting for Life (2015-2020). Ms. Mulligan stated that the Connecting for Life Cavan Monaghan Extension Plan (2022-2024) is currently with the Head of Service for approval and onward submission to the National Office for Suicide Prevention. She stated that in promoting mental health, community events are supported each year to coincide with national initiatives such as Green Ribbon Campaign, World Mental Health Day, World Suicide Prevention Day. She stated that webinars were organized during Covid and a very successful podcast initiative Stories of Recovery was delivered in partnership with Mental Health Ireland. She stated that crisis numbers posters and wallet cards have been compiled, printed and circulated widely throughout Cavan and Monaghan. She noted that face to face training was paused during 2020-2021 and were replaced with online offerings, notably the 90 minute online Start Programme. She stated that since March 2022 face to face sessions have resumed and 215 people have been trained in safeTALK across Cavan and Monaghan and 61 people have been trained in the two-day ASIST Programme. Ms. Mulligan stated that arrangements are in place locally with An Garda Siochana to provide information on suicide bereavement supports to members of the deceased person’s family. She stated that information is circulated widely in the aftermath of a suspected suicide and on an ongoing basis through communities of Cavan and Monaghan, and includes the following resources:- localised information posters, Help is at Hand Information Poster, “Numbers when you need them”, suicide and self-harm information booklets. Ms. Mulligan outlined the recent new service developments:- the appointment of a suicide crisis assessment nurse, early intervention youth mental health being established, research on profile of people who die by suspected suicide in CHO One, online event for media personnel, funding to support local community groups - €40,000 to implement initiatives to reach at risk groups in relation to improving their mental health and reducing the risk of suicide and self-harm. Ms. Mulligan noted that only 25% of people who die by suicide are in contact with mental health services in the year leading up to their death.

The members in turn complimented and thanked Emer for her excellent presentation.

1. **To hear presentation from Padraic Smyth, Manager, Local Link.**

Mr. Padraic Smyth, Manager, Local Link attended the meeting to answer questions the members had in relation to local buses.

Councillor P. Brady stated that people want local link to stop outside their houses and asked the service to look at potential new bus stops in the County. He stated that elderly people cannot get to bus stops as they may live alone and have no means of transport to get to a bus stop, yet the bus passes by their door. He stated that we need to help people on local routes get to their local towns.

Mr. Padraic Smyth stated that this issue has been raised before in relation to a stretch of road near Ballinagh. Mr. Smyth noted that the County Council has responsibility for assigning where buses can stop. He stated that restrictions on where bus stops can be placed and safety concerns for passengers also reduce the locations new bus stops can be situated. He stated that new bus stops cannot be located along a road with a 100km/h zone which is the case with the stretch of road in Ballinagh. Mr. Smyth stated that people can already request a service to collect them from their own homes. He noted that there is a large network of rural services, including door-to-door service and a simple phone call with your Eircode will get you picked up. Mr. Smyth stated that with regards to scheduled services there is a fine balance between increasing stops and reducing their efficiency and effectiveness. He stated if services had to stop every time someone put out their hand, then they would never be on time and for commuters if they cannot rely on the service to get there on time then they will cease to use it.

Councillor P. Brady noted that several school buses stop in 100km/h zones and wondered how this can happen.

Mr. Padraic Smyth informed Councillor Brady that there were issues of legacy in many cases and that the provision of school transport was the responsibility of the Department of Transport and not the National Transport Authority.

Councillor W. Bennett queried if the bus could do a pickup at Flemings Folly and turn and go back into town.

Mr. Smyth stated that this request would have to be made to the National Transport Authority as they have the ultimate say on it.

Councillor S. Smith asked if Mr. Padraic Smyth could issue a map to all elected members outlining the exact routes covered by local link.

Councillor P. McDonald asked if there was any update on the service from Bailieboro to Virginia and Bailieboro to Kingscourt.

Mr. Padraic Smyth informed Councillor McDonald that work is currently being done to update timetables for the routes.

Councillor A. Fitzpatrick queried if the 108 bus is going Bailieboro to Cootehill or stopping in Maudabawn on route. He stated that it is a long stretch from Bailieboro to Cootehill without a stop.

Mr. Padraic Smyth stated that the issue has been raised with NTA and it is still in the early stages with regards to what stops will be made along the route. Mr. Smyth advised the members to send an email to the NTA or to him in relation to the matter.

Councillor S. O’Reilly expressed her disappointment with the NTA report and noted that Bailieboro is the worst serviced town in the County and it the second biggest town in Co. Cavan. Councillor O’Reilly also noted that there is poor transport links with Ballyjamesduff.

Mr. Padraic Smyth informed Councillor S. O’Reilly that these issues were a matter for National Transport Authority not local link. Mr. Smyth stated that he would contact NTA to seek a timeline regarding the 108 for Bailieboro. Mr. Smyth also noted that Bus Eireann from Oldcastle goes through Ballyjamesduff twice weekly to Cavan town and there is a rural service from Ballyjamesduff to Cavan town on a Saturday. Mr. Smyth informed the members that all information is available on [www.locallinkcm.ie](http://www.locallinkcm.ie)

Councillor T.P. O’Reilly asked how often services are reviewed to which Mr. Smyth replied they are reviewed monthly.

Councillor P. Brady also noted that there is a lack of taxi services in Cavan town late in the evenings and wondered if local link could offer a late-night service.

Mr. Smyth stated that there are currently services available until 11pm on Friday and Saturday nights and noted that they do not want to encroach on local and private taxi drivers.

Councillor J.P. Feeley thanked Mr. Smyth for giving of his time to address the members.

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

 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.

**7. Correspondence**

**(i) To note reply from the Department of Health regarding Progressing Disability Services and the Hydrotherapy Pool in Cavan.**

Noted.

**(ii) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding an aid package to pig farmers**

Noted. Councillor W. Bennett stated that the banks need to put a flexi loan package scheme in place for pig farmers.

**(iii) To note reply from Edel Quinn, Head of Service Disability regarding people with disabilities being charged to travel to training centres.**

Noted.

**(iv) To note reply from Civil Registration Service, North-East Area regarding delays in registering a new birth.**

Noted.

1. **To approve attendance of members at the following training:**
2. **AILG Module 4 training programme to be held in the Allingham Arms, Bundoran on 23 July 2022**

It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

 Seconded by Councillor C. Brady

And

Resolved;

“that the attendance of Councillors T.P. O’Reilly, T. Smith, V. Smith, W. Bennett, M. Argue, P. McVitty, C. Lovett, C. Kelly, P. Walsh, S. OReilly, S.P. O’Reilly and B. Fay at the AILG Module 4 training programme to be held in the Allingham Arms, Bundoran on 23 July 2022 be hereby approved”

1. AILG Autumn Training Conference to be held in the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim on 14 & 15 September 2022.

It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

 Seconded by Councillor C. Brady

And

Resolved;

“that the attendance of Councillors T.P. O’Reilly, T. Smith, V. Smith, W. Bennett, M. Argue, P. McVitty, C. Brady, C. Lovett, C. Kelly, P. Walsh, A. Fitzpatrick, P. Brady, S. OReilly, S.P. O’Reilly and B. Fay at the AILG Autumn Training Conference to be held in the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, on 14 & 15 September 2022 be hereby approved”

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

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

Noted.

1. **To consider resolution to enter into an agreement with Leitrim County Council under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) concerning the planning, design, construction and completion of the SLNCR Greenway Project with Leitrim County Council being the lead authority.**

 It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor P. McVitty

And

Resolved;

“that Cavan County Council entering into an agreement with Leitrim County Council in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) concerning the planning, design, construction and completion of the SLNCR Greenway Project with Leitrim County Council being the lead authority be hereby approved”.

**Twinning with Rochester**

Councillor J.P. Feeley noted that since his appointment as Cathaoirleach he received visitors from Rochester, New York. He stated that at the reception for the people of Rochester the Chief Executive and himself were presented with a letter from Adam J. Bello Monroe, County Executive in Rochester referring to the bond created between our two regions due to our mutual citizen Colonel Patrick O’Rorke born in Cornafean in 1836 and immigrated to the United States establishing a permanent home in Rochester in 1842. He stated that Mr. Bello referred to the creation of a sister county/twinning relationship in 1995 through an official resolution of the Monroe County Legislature. Councillor Feeley noted that there does not appear to have been a similar resolution passed by Cavan County Council at this time. He stated that Mr. Bello reaffirmed Monroe County’s commitment to building the relationship with County Cavan. Councillor J.P. Feeley recommended to Cavan County Council that a resolution be passed under Section 75 of the Local Government Act 2001 to formalise the twinning arrangement between Cavan County Council and Monroe County for the social, cultural and general interests of the County and its community.

It was proposed by Councillor C. Kelly

Seconded by Councillor M. Argue

And resolved

“that the twinning arrangement between Cavan County Council and Monroe County for the social, cultural and general interests of the County and its community be hereby approved”.

**Twinning with Kurnach Municipality**

Councillor J.P. Feeley stated that since his appointment as Cathaoirleach he has had the privilege of leading a delegation from Cavan to Wurzburg and Kurnach in Germany. He stated that Cavan County Council and members of St. Kilian’s Heritage Trust and community representatives from Mullagh have been visiting Wurzburg and Kurnach where St. Kilian is the Patron Saint for many years. He stated that St. Kilian was born in Mullagh, Co. Cavan, founded a monastery in Ireland before setting sail for Wurzburg where he set up a highly successful mission in 686AD before he was martyred there in 689AD. He stated that in 2016 a Friendship pact between the Municipality of Kurnach and Cavan County Council was formally signed. He stated that the signing of this pact was an important step in the development of relationships between County Cavan the birthplace of St. Kilian and Kurnach where he died and is celebrated and has provided opportunities for exchanges and links in the civic, tourism, social, cultural, spiritual and educational areas. He stated that during this visit discussions were held with the Kurnach Partnership Committee Chair, Colette Herrman (nee Duggan) and the Mayor of Kurnach, Rene Wohlfart with a view to the friendship pact becoming a formal twinning arrangement. Councillor J.P. Feeley recommended to Cavan County Council that a resolution be passed under Section 75 of the Local Government Act 2001 for form a twinning arrangement between Cavan County Council and Kurnach Municipality for the social, cultural and general interests of the County and its community.

It was proposed by Councillor S. P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor M. Argue

And resolved

“that the twinning arrangement between Cavan County Council and Kurnach Municipality for the social, cultural and general interests of the County and its community be hereby approved”.

 **Civic Receptions**

Councillor J.P. Feeley recommended that a civic reception be held to celebrate the 100th anniversary of An Garda Siochána.

It was proposed by Councillor S. P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor W. Bennett

And resolved

“that the hosting of a civic reception to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of An Garda Siochána be hereby approved”.

Councillor J.P. Feeley recommended that a civic reception be held to honour Rev. David Nixon, native of Blacklion, Co. Cavan on being elected President of the Methodist Church in Ireland.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Smith

Seconded by Councillor P. McVitty

And resolved

“that the hosting of a civic reception to honour Rev, David Nixon, native of Blacklion, Co. Cavan on being elected President of the Methodist Church in Ireland be hereby approved”.

**Votes of Congratulations:**

* To Cottage Market Cavan and all involved in bringing the summer market to Cavan Town.
* Aodhagán Brady, Killeshandra on his selection to represent Ireland at the European U18 Golf Championships in Germany.
* Cavan Senior Football Team on reaching he final of the Tailteann Cup.
* Tara Rogers, Knockbride on being crowned Cavan Rose 2022.
* Virginia Ladies U19 Basketball Team who have qualified for the World School Games in Belgrade, Serbia from the 20th to 28th September 2022.
* Senior Planner Nicholas O’Kane, Senior Executive Planner Marice Galligan Graham and Executive Planner Mairead Sheridan on the work they did on Cavan’ s County Development Plan. The plan was recently approved by the Planning Regulator.
* Minister Heather Humphreys on her announcement of €400,000 in funding for the former Bank of Ireland building in Cootehill to become a new community facility for the town.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS DEFERRED FROM JUNE MEETING**

**1. To ask Cavan County Council, as we approach the 80th Anniversary of the fire at St. Joseph’s orphanage, to erect a memorial in the town centre in memory of the children who lost their lives on the 23 February 1943.**

Deferred to September meeting.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS JULY MEETING**

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

Councillor C. Kelly asked the executive of Cavan County Council if there had been any

recent updates on the North South Interconnector.

Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service informed the members that there had been no

meetings with Eirgrid or ESB Networks since the last Council Meeting.

**3. To discuss the erection of a memorial for the Staines Air disaster victims at Con Smith Park, Cavan.**

Councillor T.P. O’Reilly proposed that Cavan County Council erect a memorial for the Staines Air disaster victims at Con Smith Park, Cavan. Councillor T.P. O’Reilly stated that Con Smith was a prominent businessman and innovator who died tragically in the Staines Air disaster in 1972. He stated that the late Con Smith led a delegation of twelve businessmen to Brussels for instruction to the European Union. However, the flight from London Heathrow to Brussels crashed soon after take-off killing all one hundred and eighteen people on board. Councillor T.P. O’Reilly stated that a sculpture of 12 birds is to be unveiled in Brussels in the future to represent the twelve businessmen who died and asked that Cavan County Council would do something in conjunction with this.

 Councillor M. Argue seconded Councillor T.P O’Reilly’s proposal.

 Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service stated that the Council would take Councillor O’Reilly’s proposal on board. He noted that under the town and urban funding allocation, the Council proposes to redesign the Park and maybe the monument could be erected when this work is being done.

**4. To discuss back to school costs.**

Councillor P. McDonald stated that families across the state are finding back-to-school costs a huge burden every year, but even more so this year, with a cost-of-living crisis that is getting worse. Councillor P. McDonald welcomed the extra €100 back to school allowance and stated that it needs to be paid immediately to help families that are struggling. Councillor P. McDonald noted that the Sinn Fein Party have set out a package of measures to support families with these costs. He noted that the back-to-school allowance should be extended to middle income families on a household income of €80,000 and less and those already receiving it should have their allowance increased. He stated that the Government should work towards a fully free schoolbook scheme for children and set out how school transport fees could be eliminated on a phased basis. Councillor McDonald also stated that there should be no necessity for voluntary school donations.

 Councillor J.P. Feeley supported the motion and welcomed the extra €100 back-to-school allowance and deferral of school transport fees for this year.

 Councillor C. Brady noted that this is a pressured time for families and complimented Minister Humphreys, Minister for Social Protection on her announcement of the extra €100 payment to assist families that will be paid into bank accounts from next Monday 18th July. She stated that these changes and increases are important in terms of assisting families with purchasing school uniforms and other back-to-school related costs.

 Councillors S. O’Reilly and B. Fay supported the motion.

**5. Swimming lessons at Cavan Swimming Pool**

Councillor P. Brady expressed his concerns at the lengthy waiting times for swimming lessons at Cavan Swimming Pool. He stated that parents in Cavan have to register their child for swimming lessons as soon as they are born in the hope that by the time they reach six they will be able to afford of lessons. Councillor Brady stated that he is aware one person that is waiting on swimming lessons since 2017. Councillor Brady noted that Covid regulations within the pool facility are still in place, as well as the compulsory online booking system, where parents have no option but to book each child in individually. He stated that he had no issue with the staff running the swimming pool, he just wondered what the reason is for such a backlog.

 Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Services stated that there is a shortage of swimming pool capacity with only four lanes within the facility, and a huge volume of people wanting access to only a limited body of water. Mr. Jennings noted that there are other services that take place in the pool other than swimming lessons. Mr. Jennings noted that the staff are also trying to get through two years of missed lessons due to Covid 19.

 Councillor M. Argue supported the motion and noted that Annagh Lake, Lavey Lake and other lakes also provide swimming lessons during the summer.

**6. The tarring of entrances to new single dwelling houses.**

Councillor P. Brady stated that it was brought to his attention the expense involved in tarring of entrances to new single dwelling houses which is a condition of planning permission granted. He stated that in some cases couples need to borrow money to do this work. He asked if there was a cheaper way that people building houses can avail of something different.

Mr. Paddy Connaughton, Director of Service noted Councillors Brady’s comments and stated that it is not the first thing that must be done. Mr. Connaughton stated that surface water drainage must be dealt with first and the machinery is on site for this.

Councillor C. Lovett supported the motion and noted that banks will not issue the last 5 or 10% of the mortgage if the works are not complete. He stated that one option could be for the Council to take on the tarring of the entrance when doing the road and add the cost to the planning fees.

Councillor S. Smith supported the motion and noted that it is vitally important that proper drainage is in place to deal with surface water.

Councillor C. Kelly supported the motion.

**7. That we write to the Department of Education and National Council for Special Education (NCSE) to ask why some schools are been overlooked for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classes and children being bused out of their own communities to other areas even after years of requests to the Special Educational Needs Organisers (SEO) which seem to be declined.**

Councillor B. Fay stated that children with special educational needs deserve the right to go to school in their own community. Councillor Fay noted that there are local children being bused out of their own communities to other areas and even after years of requests to the Special Educational Needs Organisers they seem to be declined. Councillor Fay stated that early intervention is key to a young child and that specialised forms of learning need be made available through every school in Cavan. Councillor Fay stated that there is not a need to build special classes, at every school and noted that teachers go above and beyond to cater for all students. Councillor Fay stated that Scoil Bhride, Killeshandra, has been looking to establish a class for children with additional needs for the past three years. He stated that they had been told by the Special Needs Organisers by verbal statement that they would be approved in September 2023.

Councillor S. Smith supported the motion and complimented the Principal and Staff of Scoil Bhride for their perseverance in looking for additional needs for the children. Councillor S. Smith welcomed the news announced by Minister Foley that approval had just been granted to Scoil Bhride to convert existing school accommodation to establish a class for children with additional needs.

Councillor P. McVitty supported the motion. Councillor P. McVitty noted that autistic children do not like change and stated that facilities need to be put in place in secondary schools to facilitate autistic children.

Councillor C. Kelly supported the motion and stated that from now on new schools will have to accommodate autistic children.

**8. That we communicate to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Environment the total frustration on behalf of farmers who cannot get felling licences and have been waiting for years with seemingly no end result which is causing untold stress and financial hardship.**

Councillor B. Fay proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Environment to express the total frustration on behalf of farmers who cannot get felling licences and have been waiting for years with no end result which is causing untold stress and financial hardship. He stated farmers are waiting between three and five years for a licence and when they contact the Department, they are told that they are waiting to have the ecology report signed off on by an ecologist.

 Councillor S. Smith supported the motion and noted that since 2018 the problem seems to be the submission of an ecology report. He stated that timber was never wanted as much as it is now, and the regulations must be changed.

 Councillor T.P. O’Reilly supported the motion and noted that there is also a problem with people from outside the area lodging objections on a regular basis.

 Councillor S.P. O’Reilly supported the motion and noted that there are many industries hampered by the non-supply of timber. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly proposed that a letter be sent to Senator Pippa Hackett asking her what direction has been taken on this important issue.

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

 Councillors P. McDonald and J.P. Feeley supported the motion.

**9. That we write to the Department of Tourism and Minister Catherine Martin, T.D., on the extortionate pricing of hotels in our major cities and also the cost of car rentals in Ireland as this is really damaging our tourism industry across the world.**

Councillor B. Fay proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Department of Tourism and Minister Catherine Martin, T.D., on the extortionate pricing of hotels in our major cities and the cost of car rentals in Ireland as this is really damaging our tourism industry across the world. Councillor Fay stated that people can travel to Madrid for half the price of a holiday in Ireland, noting that a hotel in Dublin cost €540 without breakfast. He stated that there is no value for money in our Country anymore and called for rules, like those already in place for the pub trade, where prices must be displayed and cannot be increased within a certain period of time. He stated that the domestic tourist market supported the sector during Covid and now they are being put to the sword. Councillor Fay also criticised the price of car rental in Ireland as the summer tourist season got underway.

 Councillor S.P. O’Reilly seconded Councillor B. Fay’s proposal. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that the hospitality sector got great support during the Covid pandemic through the wage subsidy scheme and the VAT reduced to 9%. He stated that it looks like the people of Ireland are being punished for supporting home economy.

 Councillor T.P. O’Reilly supported the motion and noted that people will take foreign holidays rather than stay at home due to the price of accommodation.

 Councillor P. McVitty supported the motion and noted the price of petrol and diesel constantly changing at fuel stations.

 It was proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley and seconded by Councillor P. McVitty to write to the Minister for Finance asking him to implement measures in the upcoming budget.

 **Dublin – Donegal bus**

Councillor B. Fay expressed his annoyance with the statement from Minister Eamon Ryan in relation to the Dublin-Donegal bus service. Minister Ryan stated that as Minister for Transport he had responsibility for policy and overall funding in relation to public transport, however he is not involved in the day-to-day operations of public transport, this is a matter for Bus Eireann. Councillor Fay noted that over the past two weeks in Belturbet, users have consistently highlighted problems with buses reported to be facing long delays and some not turning up at all. Councillor B. Fay proposed that Cavan County Council write to Transport Infrastructure Ireland in relation to the matter. This was seconded by Councillor S. Smith.

**Soccer Club Kingscourt**

Councillor C. Kelly stated that some years ago the soccer club in Kingscourt upgraded its facilities and Irish Water are now telling them they must spend €36,000 on upgrading their pipework. Councillor Kelly stated that there is no sense in what Irish Water are asking them to do and asked that Cavan County Council contact Irish Water in relation to same.

Item no. 1 was deferred.

The meeting concluded at 5pm.