**Minutes of Meeting of Cavan County Council held on Monday 9th December, 2019 in St. Kilian’s Heritage Centre, Mullagh at 3.30p.m.**

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

In Attendance; T. Ryan, Chief Executive

E. Doyle, Director of Service

P. Connaughton, Director of Service

B. Jennings, Director of Service

L. McGavigan, Senior Administrative Officer

E. McGinn, Senior Staff Officer

Apologies were received from Councillor S. Smith and Councillor P. Walsh.

The meeting went In-Committee to discuss Municipal District Funding for “Cavan Calling”. Cathaoirleach S.P. O’Reilly stated that following discussions it had been agreed, subject to certain conditions, that the members had consented to giving €15,000 per Municipal District for “Cavan Calling” to be held in August 2020. He stated that the €15,000 per district will be used for projects and events in each district and any of the funds not used will be returned to the relevant Municipal District.

Mr. Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive thanked the members for their support and stated that an information day will be held in January to inform community groups about the grant application process. He stated that “Cavan Calling” is a global Cavan Homecoming taking place on 20-22 August, 2020 and it is anticipated that many people and groups from across the globe with an affinity to the County will be invited to Cavan to celebrate the shared heritage.

1. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting held on 11th November 2019.**

**Miontuaririsci cruinnithe 11 Mi na Samhna 2019 a dhearbhu.**

It was;

Proposed by Councillor C. Kelly

Seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of meeting of Cavan County Council held on 11 November 2019 be hereby approved”

1. **Disclosures 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 October 2019**

Noted

**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 letter of thanks from Bishop Francis Duffy and Bishop Emeritus Leo O’Reilly following recent Civic Reception.**

Noted.

**5(b) To note reply from Department of Public Expenditure and Reform regarding the development of the Northern and Western Region.**

Noted.

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

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

Noted.

**7. To** **approve disposal of 0.0061 acres or 0.00234 hectares of land at Corglass,**

**Kilnaleck, Co. Cavan to Ms. Kathleen Lynch, Corglass, Kilnaleck, Co. Cavan for**

**the sum of €426.00, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001**

**and Section 211 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000, and**

**notices circulated.**

It was proposed by Councillor W. Bennett

Seconded by Councillor M. Argue

and

Resolved

“that the disposal of 0.0061 acres or 0.00234 hectares of land at Corglass, Kilnaleck,

Co. Cavan to Ms. Kathleen Lynch, Corglass, Kilnaleck, Co. Cavan for the sum of

€426.00, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of

the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act be hereby approved”.

**Business and reports submitted by the Chief Executive**

**8. To approve Noise Action Plan**

It was

Proposed by Councillor P. McVitty

Seconded by Councillor S. O’Reilly

And

Resolved

“that the Noise Action Plan be hereby approved”.

**9. To approve replacement nominee from Cavan County Council, Mr. Brendan**

**Jennings, Director of Service to Cavan Local Community and Development**

**Committee under Section 128C (3)(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor C. Kelly

Seconded by Councillor M. Argue

And

Resolved

“that replacement nominee from Cavan County Council, Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service to Cavan Local Community and Development Committee under Section 128C (3)(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 be hereby approved”.

**Votes of Sympathy**

* Councillor Philip Brady on the death of his uncle Mr. Tony Lynch
* Councillor Patricia Walsh on the death of her sister-in-law Mrs. Mary McNamara, Tipperary.
* The Johnston Family on the death of Aidan brother of former County Manager Mr. Brian Johnston, R.I.P.

**Votes of Congratulations**

* Cuchulainns U20 football team on winning the Division 3 final.
* Ramor Theatre and The Cavan Arts Office, along with the family of the late Mr. Tom McIntrye for putting together an evening commemorating Mr. McIntyre’s life entitled “A memorial Celebration of the Life of Poet, Playwright and Man of Letters – Tom McIntyre”.
* The Cavan Branch of the Alzheimer Society of Ireland on winning second place in the Age Friendly Initiative category at this year’s Pride of Place Awards.
* Virginia Town on being runner up in the regional category of the Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards.
* Mr. Tom Sullivan, former County Librarian on his amazing work in “Voices of the Troubles” which was nominated for a Chambers Ireland award.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS – DECEMBER**

1. **Parental alienation (The rights of both mother and father to child access in the event of separation)**

Councillor P. McDonald stated that parental alienation often occurs during conflict separations and divorces where a child or children who would have previously had a loving relationship with a parent may for no apparent or justifiable reason reject that parent and that parent’s family. Councillor McDonald proposed that Cavan County Council call on the Irish Government to make Parental Alienation an offence in Ireland and ask that they take action to address the abusive effects of Parental Alienation on Irish Children. Councillor P. McDonald noted that Donegal and Laois County Councils had already passed motions on Parental Alienation.

1. **Cavan County Council calls on the Irish Government Departments of Health, Justice and Equality and Children and Youth Affairs to recognise that Parental Alienation is “Substantial and sustained dissatisfaction within a caregiver-child relationship associated with significant disturbance in functioning” as coded by the World Health Organisation in the latest International Classification of Diseases, Version 11 and to implement recommendation 36 of the Report of the Reform of the Family Law System October 2019.**

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly supported the motion and seconded Councillor P. McDonald’s proposal stating that he did not realise until lately that this was such a problem in Ireland. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly called on the Government to recognise that Parental Alienation is “substantial and sustained dissatisfaction within a caregiver-child relationship associated with significant disturbance in functioning” as coded by the World Health Organisation in the latest International Classification of Diseases, Version 11 and to implement recommendation 36 of the Report of the Reform of the Family Law System October 2019.

The motions were supported unanimously.

1. **To discuss the community-based CCTV Scheme and the issues relating to local authority Data Controllers and to ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the status of the roll-out of community-based CCTV schemes nationwide.**

Councillor S. O’Reilly asked if there had been any update in the last year as to who the data controller is when installing community-based CCTV. She stated there is currently funding of €3m available for community-based CCTV schemes nationwide which cannot be accessed because the Government have not assigned data controllers to manage the CCTV.

Councillor W. Bennett supported the motion and noted that there is a CCTV camera in the Garda Barracks in Ballinagh and the Gardai are the Data Controllers. Councillor Bennett proposed that the Council write to the Minister for Justice and the Garda Commissioner stating that all CCTV cameras should be placed in Garda Stations and not in Council based buildings.

Councillor P. McVitty noted that this issue was discussed at a recent Joint Policing Committee meeting and the Chief Superintendent stated that the Garda Commissioner would not hear of putting community-based CCTV in Garda Stations. Councillor McVitty seconded Councillor W. Bennett’s proposal.

Councillor B. Fay supported the motion but felt a start should be made by putting the cameras into Council buildings and then in the future move the cameras to the Garda Stations if permitted.

All Councillors unanimously supported the motion.

Mr. Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive stated that no further progress had been made with the County & City Management Association and the Department in relation to who the Data Controllers would be. Mr. Ryan stated that he would make further enquiries on the matter.

Councillor S. O’Reilly thanked all members for their support and stated that the scheme was false advertisement and only getting communities hopes up.

1. **In view of the alarming suicide statistics in the Cavan and Monaghan area, Cavan County Council asks Minister Harris, T.D., for additional evidence based resources for mental health services in Cavan and Monaghan.**

Councillor S. O’Reilly proposed that in view of the alarming suicide statistics in the Cavan and Monaghan area, that Cavan County Council write to the Minister for Health, Mr. Simon Harris T.D. asking for additional evidence-based resources for mental health services in Cavan and Monaghan.

Councillors P. McDonald seconded Councillor O’Reilly’s proposal.

Councillors P. Brady and T.P. O’Reilly supported the motion.

Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service stating that the Connecting for Life Programme is very active in both Cavan and Monaghan. He noted that Connecting for Life connects all key partners from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors. Mr. Jennings stated that Connecting for Life sets out a vision where fewer lives are lost through suicide and where communities and individuals are empowered to improve their mental health and wellbeing. Mr. Jennings stated that Ms. Emer Mulligan, resource worker is willing to meet and update the members of Cavan County Council.

Councillor C. Kelly proposed that Ms. Mulligan be invited to a Council meeting and this was seconded by Councillor S. O’Reilly.

1. **“On behalf of Aitheantas, I am calling on Cavan County Council to write to Minister Zappone’s Department requesting that her Department acknowledges adoptee identity rights and immediately allows adoptees access to their own information on health, history and heritage in line with the equality and personal autonomy rights of other citizens and as voted for in two of our recent referenda”.**

Councillor A. Fitzpatrick stated that Aitheantas is the Irish for identity and was established in 2018. Councillor Fitzpatrick noted that adoptees in Ireland are one of the few, if only, groups still restricted by last century legislation. He stated that adoptees who seek information on their own health, history and heritage are denied the most basic knowledge of themselves. He stated that adoptees have no acknowledged identity rights which means no automatic access to their own birth certificate. Councillor Fitzpatrick stated that other local authorities throughout the Country have already supported this motion. Councillor Fitzpatrick proposed that the Council write to Minister Zappone requesting that her Department acknowledges adoptee identity rights and immediately allows adoptees access to their own information on health, history and heritage in line with the equality and personal autonomy rights of other citizens and as voted for in two of our recent referenda.

Councillor P. McDonald seconded Councillor Fitzpatrick’s proposal.

The motion was supported unanimously.

**Items 1,2 and 5 were deferred to January Meeting.**

**The meeting concluded at 5.30p.m.**

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

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