**Minutes of Meeting of Cavan County Council held in The Council Chamber, Courthouse, Cavan on Monday 13th June, 2022 at 2.00p.m.**

Councillor C. Kelly, Cathaoirleach presiding

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

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

S.P. O’Reilly, T.P. O’Reilly, S. Smith, T. Smith, V. Smith, P. Walsh (online).

In Attendance; T. Ryan, Chief Executive

E. Doyle, Director of Service

B. Jennings, Director of Service

M. McNally, A/Head of Finance

J. McKernan, Senior Engineer

L. McGavigan, Senior Executive Officer

E. McGinn, Senior Staff Officer

E. Smith, Senior Staff Officer

Councillor C. Kelly welcomed all to the meeting.

1. **To confirm Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th May 2022.**

**Miontuaririsci cruinnithe 9 Bealtaine a dhearbhu.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor P. McVitty

Seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of meeting of Cavan County Council held on 9 May 2022 be hereby approved”

**Votes of Sympathy**

* Tony, Lorraine, Grace and the extended Byrne Family, Teeboy. Corlough, Co. Cavan on the tragic death of their son Luke.
* The Monaghan Family, Corner Shop, Mullagh on the death of Mr. John Monaghan.
* The Parish of Ballymachugh on the death of former P.P. Emeritus Fr. Frank Gray.
* The Guisti Family, Ballyjamesduff on the death of Pastor Sergio Giusti.

A minutes silence was held in memory of the deceased.

1. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting to approve AFS held on 19th April 2022/**

It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of AFS meeting held on 19th April 2022 be hereby approved”.

1. **To approve Minutes of Meeting of Chief Executive’s Report on the Material amendments on the Draft County Development Plan incorporating Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028 held on 30 May 2022.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor W. Bennett

And

Resolved;

“that minutes of Meeting of Chief Executive’s Report on the Material amendments on the Draft County Development Plan incorporating Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028 held on 30 May 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 11 April 2022**

Noted.

1. **To hear presentation from Christine Wynne, Coordinator SOSAD Cavan.**

Ms. Christine Wynne, Coordinator, SOSAD, Cavan thanked the members for inviting her to the meeting and gave a detailed presentation on the workings of SOSAD. She informed the members that SOSAD stands for Save our Sons and Daughters and offers supports and services for people who are struggling with suicidal ideation, self-harming, depression, bereavement, stress and anxiety or if you simply just need to talk. Ms. Wynne stated that SOSAD have full time offices in Cavan, Monaghan, Louth and Laois. She stated that there is a 24-hour helpline, available 7 days of week to the public. Ms. Wynne noted that the teenage years can be both an exciting and challenging time and teenagers are faced with unique pressures in the transition from childhood to adulthood which can mean it becoming a difficult and confusing time especially in this age of social media. Ms. Wynne stated that she is the only paid employee within the organisation that provides more than 120 free counselling sessions a week, both peer and one-to-one messaging service as well as walk in services and a range of other supports. Ms. Wynne noted that there is also a drop-in centre in Cavan which is an informal space for anyone to drop in for a chat and a cup of tea. She stated that this service is especially valuable for people who are living alone and feeling isolated, the drop-in centre runs from 10am to 3pm daily. Ms. Wynne stated that the process in which those who represent themselves to A & E with mental health should be eradicated with the priority of the client first and paperwork second. She noted that if a minor needs mental health support or treatment at the weekend, they have no option but to be brought to A & E and added that if necessary, depending on the condition of the patient, they will be admitted to an adult psychiatric unit in the basement of Cavan General Hospital regardless of their age. She stated that SOSAD is working to further enhance its presence in the community. She stated that the team is working with former county footballer turned mental health advocate Alan O’Meara on an information package that can be shared with sports clubs, businesses, and schools. She noted that SOSAD are facing an uphill battle to keep the doors open to the growing number of people availing of its services.

The members in turn thanked Ms. Wynne for her presentation and acknowledged the good work being done by SOSAD throughout the County.

Councillor P. Brady proposed that Cavan County Council write to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Mental Health and Older People to seek extra funding to help assist SOSAD in attaining funding supports. This proposal was seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley.

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.

**8. Correspondence**

**(i) To note reply from Dr. Fiona McGrath, Chief Executive, Cavan and Monaghan**

**Education and Training Board regarding displaced Ukrainian Nationalists – Former Army Barracks.**

Noted. Councillor S. Smith asked that a further letter be sent to An Taoiseach Micheál Martin, An Tanáiste Leo Varadkar and Leader of the Green Party, Eamon Ryan asking that the Government put in place measures to allow vacant State-owned properties to be used as accommodation for Ukrainian Refugees.

**(ii) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and**

**Heritage regarding a review of income limits.**

Noted.

**(iii) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence Regarding the expulsion of some Russian Diplomats from Ireland.**

Noted.

**(iv) To note reply from NEDOC Ltd., regarding referrals to ED from NEDOC.**

Noted. Councillor P. Brady proposed that the Council write to Caredoc and the Manager of GP our of hours services as suggested in the reply from NEDOC. This proposal was seconded by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly.

**(v) To note reply from Office of the Minister for Sport and an Ghaeltacht regarding bilingual packaging of consumer goods.**

Noted.

**Cavan Bus Station**

Councillor M. Argue proposed that a further letter be sent to Bus Eireann in relation to the re-opening of Cavan bus station to the public.

1. **To approve attendance of members at the following training:**

**AILG Training (Module 3) “Finalising your Development Plan” to be held in the**

**Hudson Bay Hotel, Athlone on 16 June or Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny on 18 June.**

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, C. Brady, M. Argue, P. McVitty, C. Lovett, A. Fitzpatrick, C. Kelly, S. P. O’Reilly, S. O’Reilly and B. Fay at the AILG Training (Module 3) “Finalising your Development Plan” to be held in the Hudson Bay Hotel, Athlone on 16 June or Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny on 18 June 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. **That Cavan County Council enter into an agreement with Meath County Council in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended). The purpose of the agreement is to give Meath County Council all the powers, duties and functions of Cavan County Council in relation to the development of the design of Boyne Valley to Lakelands County Greenway along the disused Navan to Kingscourt Rail line, secure funding for the tender and construction of the scheme and undertaken the required construction works.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor C. Kelly

Seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley

And

Resolved;

“that Cavan County Council entering into an agreement with Meath County Council in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) be hereby approved”.

1. **To approve disposal of land containing 0.324 hectares or 0.8 acres at Errigal, Cootehill, Co. Cavan to Terence Smith, Lakeland, Tunnyduff, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan for the sum of €20,000, 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 C. Brady

Seconded by Councillor A. Fitzpatrick

And

Resolved;

“that the disposal of land containing 0.324 hectares or 0.8 acres at Errigal, Cootehill, Co. Cavan to Terence Smith, Lakeland, Tunnyduff, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan for the sum of €20,000, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000, be hereby approved”.

1. **To approve disposal of land containing 0.044 hectares or 0.108 acres at Drumalt Td., Arvagh, Co. Cavan to Health Service Executive, Oak House, Limetree Avenue, Millenium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare for the sum of €10.00, 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 T. Smith

And

Resolved;

“that the disposal of land containing 0.044 hectares or 0.108 acres at Drumalt Td., Arvagh, Co. Cavan to Health Service Executive, Oak House, Limetree Avenue, Millenium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare for the sum of €10.00, pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000 be hereby approved”.

1. **In accordance with Section 221, Local Government Act 2001 as amended, adoption of the 2021 Annual Report.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor C. Brady

Seconded by Councillor J.P. Feeley

And

Resolved;

“that in accordance with Section 221, Local Government Act 2001, as amended, the adoption of the 2021 Annual Report be hereby approved”.

1. **To approve Cavan Local Authority Audit Committee Annual Report 2021- (Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor J.P. Feeley

Seconded by Councillor S. Smith

And

Resolved;

“that Cavan Local Authority Audit Committee Annual Report 2021 (Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014) be hereby approved”.

1. **To approve Cavan Local Authority Audit Committee Charter in accordance with the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014.**

It was

Proposed by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

Seconded by Councillor T.P. O’Reilly

And

Resolved;

“that Cavan Local Authority Audit Committee Charter in accordance with the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014 be hereby approved”.

**17. To note Report on NOAC Performance Indicators 2020.**

Noted.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS DEFERRED FROM MAY MEETING**

**1. 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.

**2. 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 July meeting.

**MEMBERS’ ITEMS JUNE MEETING**

**3. The upgrade of Parking Meters in Cavan Town.**

Councillor P. McDonald called on Cavan County Council to upgrade parking meters in Cavan Town. He stated that out of order machines are problematic and cause an inconvenience to those who are unfamiliar with the town. He noted that County Monaghan use cashless systems with a tap option for bank cards and mobile phones. Councillor P. McDonald stated that the people of County Cavan would benefit greatly from this option.

Councillor J.P. Feeley supported the motion and noted that there is a cashless system in Enniskillen also which is environmentally friendly and cuts down on paper waste.

Councillor S. O’Reilly supported the motion and noted that cashless systems are welcome where somebody has no change but felt a push towards a totally cashless system, could marginalise some people.

Mr. John McKernan, Senior Engineer informed the members that 22 metres of this kind, would be installed in Cavan town by the fourth quarter of this year. He stated that some of the meters purchased would have cash options as well as providing change.

**4. To ask Irish Water to put forward a plan for connection for clusters of homes and especially those with severe mineral issues in rural areas in Co. Cavan.**

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly proposed that Cavan County Council write to Irish Water asking that they put forward a plan for connection for clusters of homes and especially those with severe mineral issues in rural areas in County Cavan. He stated that there are situations with houses in rural areas having major issues trying to get Irish Water to accept the need for connection to a supply. He stated that people in these houses are willing to contribute towards the connection. Councillor S.P. O’Reilly stated that there are also problems in rural parts of the County with manganese in water. He asked that Cavan County Council express their disappointment and annoyance with Irish Water’s Call Centre. He stated that he has experienced problems with the level of customer service provided by Irish Water and noted that when Cavan County Council oversaw water services in this county this was never the case.

Councillor T.P. O’Reilly supported the motion and stated that it is a nightmare to get through to Irish Water.

Councillor C. Kelly supported the motion and noted the problem with lime in the water in Kingscourt is causing citizens a small fortune. Councillor Kelly noted that for €25,000 more, Irish Water could have installed equipment to soften the water in Kingscourt at a time when the new €3million water plant was being built. Councillor Kelly proposed that the Council invite Irish Water to a meeting of Cavan County Council in the chamber to discuss these issues. This proposal was seconded by Councillor T.P. O’Reilly.

Councillor P. McDonald supported the motion and noted the day Cavan County Council lost control of water services was a sad day for County Cavan.

Councillor S. O’Reilly supported the motion.

**5. To discuss the removal of signage regarding events that have taken place and temporary roadside signage that has exceeded its terms.**

Councillor S.P. O’Reilly on behalf of the elected members of the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District stated that the Council need to enforce rules in relation to the removal of signage regarding events that have taken place and temporary roadside signage that has exceeded its terms. He noted that when community groups put up posters to let people know there is an event happening, they must take them down within seven days after the event or they will face a fine but unfortunately some posters are left up for ages and nothing done about it. He stated that it should not be one rule for community organisations and another for political parties and businesses. He noted a situation where signs had planning permission along the M3 and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) cut down the signs.

Councillor W. Bennett seconded Councillor S.P. O’Reilly’s proposal stating that all notices should be taken down within the specified period.

Councillor S. O’Reilly supported the motion and noted that if a sign was a day over in County Monaghan a fine of €400 was issued.

Councillor P. McVitty supported the motion.

Mr. John McKernan, Senior Engineer informed the members that permission is needed from the Local Authority to erect a sign. If temporary permission is required, then the local authority must be informed four weeks in advance of the event and taken down within seven days after the event. He stated that if the members have locations in mind where signage is up, to let the roads section know and they will investigate it.

**6. Delay in registering of Births.**

Councillor P. McDonald stated that it is now taking between eight and nine weeks to register a new birth. He stated that the family fill out the form before they leave Cavan General Hospital, and it is sent to the birth registration office. He stated that birth certificates are needed to get the child’s PPSN number if families want to apply for passports or children’s allowance. He proposed that Cavan County Council write to the HSE asking why there is a delay in processing birth certificates.

This proposal was seconded by Councillor S.P. O’Reilly

1. **I call on the Minister for Health to expedite the bonus payments for nurses and health care workers.**

Councillor T.P. O’Reilly proposed that Cavan County Council call on the Minister for Health to expedite the bonus payments for nurses and health care workers. He stated that there are numerous nurses and health care workers in the County that still have not received their bonus payment. He stated that a roadmap is needed to put a system in place to pay these workers.

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

Councillor C. Kelly supported the motion.

The meeting concluded at 3.45 p.m

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

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