

## Minutes of Annual Meeting June 2017

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall on Monday  
19th June 2017

### **In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. Paul Bell

**Members:** Councillors: M. Butler, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, K. Callan, E. Corrigan, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, J. Green, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, D. Minogue, L. Reilly, P. Savage, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, A. Watters, M. Yore.

**Officials:** J. Martin, Chief Executive  
P. Donnelly, Director of Services  
J. McGuinness Director of Services  
F. Pentony, Director of Services  
B. Woods, Head of Finance  
Mary T. Daly, Senior Executive Officer  
A. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer  
Anthony Abbott King, Senior Planner  
F. Downes, Meetings Administrator

**Apologies:** Councillors: E. Coffey, R. Culhane, D. Saurin, T. Sharkey  
E. O’Gorman, Director of Services

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### **Minute No.102/17**

Welcome by outgoing Cathaoirleach

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. P. Bell stated that he deeply enjoyed the year and found it rewarding both in a personal capacity and on a county basis. He thanked the Leas Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan who deputised on many occasions throughout the year and that he was a wonderful colleague to work with.

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Cllr. Bell thanked the members for their great support and thanked the outgoing Cathaoirligh and Mayor for all the interaction throughout the year.

Cllr. Bell expressed his appreciation to Joan Martin, Chief Executive for the her guidance, communication and personal interaction and the Directors and to the staff in Louth County Council for their ongoing support and co-operation throughout the year.

Cllr. Bell expressed his belief that he fulfilled his promise of working for the people of County Louth which could not have been done without the support of the councillors and management. He had fulfilling engagements with many voluntary and community groups who work tirelessly on behalf of the citizens of Louth.

In his opinion there are numerous issues in housing and the medical services and is aware of the efforts of the staff and councillors re same.

Cllr. Bell acknowledged the many positives such as the welcoming of Vice President Joe Biden to the county which was a great opportunity for the council.

Cllr. Bell acknowledged the passing of Andy Califf, a colleague and friend and the loss of Captain Mark Duffy who served the country and paid the ultimate price. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends.

He thanked his wife Linda for her continued support and strong direction.

He wished success to his successor.

Cllr. Bell declared that he was very proud to work as Cathaoirleach.

### **Minute No.103/17**

#### **Election of Cathaoirleach**

#### **The Election of Cathaoirleach of the County Council for the ensuing year in accordance with Section 37 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended**

The Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach and the following was the outcome:-

**Proposed by Cllr. O. Tully**

**Seconded by Cllr. D. Minogue**

**Cllr. C. Markey for the position of Cathaoirleach**

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**Proposed by Cllr. P. McGeough**

**Seconded by Cllr. A. Watters**

**Cllr. J. Byrne for the position of Cathaoirleach**

A roll call vote was taken the result of which was as follows:-

**For Councillor C. Markey** Cllrs. P. Bell, M. Butler, T. Byrne, K. Callan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, D. Minogue, L. Reilly, P. Savage, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully,

**Total; sixteen (16)**

**For Councillor J. Byrne** Cllrs. J. Byrne, E. Corrigan, T. Cunningham, K. Flood, J. Green, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, A. Watters, M. Yore

**Total: nine (9)**

**Absent** Cllr. E. Coffey, R. Culhane, D. Saurin, T. Sharkey

**Total: four (4)**

Accordingly Cllr. Colm Markey was declared elected as Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council for the ensuing year.

Cllr. Markey thanked Cllr. O. Tully and Cllr. D. Minogue for nominating him and that he appreciated their support. He thanked Cllr. Bell and Cllr. Keelan for their work throughout the year, making the meetings run smoothly. He said that Cllr. Bell represented all fairly throughout the year. He looks forward to working with the other Chairs and would like to see them all working together for the benefit of the county as a whole.

He stated that he was looking forward to working with the staff and hopes to sit with the Chief Executive and members so that they can move forward together.

He stated that he would continue to place Brexit on his list of priorities as it will have a fundamental impact on the county. He also stated that there will be a great opportunity for Drogheda with the Fleadh and wished Mayor Pío Smith best wishes

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re same – he said that it's an wonderful opportunity to showcase Drogheda and the county.

He advised that he will do his best as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Dearey thanked Cllr. Bell for a great year. He stated that it was good to work with Cllr. Bell and even though Cllr. Bell is known as a true Drogheda man, he made himself at home in north Louth. Cllr. Dearey also commented that Cllr. Keelan did an outstanding job throughout the year.

Cllr. Reilly on behalf of the Fianna Fail party thanked Cllr. Bell for all his work on behalf of the Council, he put the county to the forefront and he also thanked the Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Callan offered his thanks to Cllr. Bell for his service.

Cllr. Tully on behalf of Fine Gael party thanked Cllr. Bell for all the work and the success he made of it.

Cllr. P. Smith thanked Cllr. Bell for doing a good job and being fair.

Cllr. J Byrne on behalf of the Sein Fein group commended Cllr. Bell on a great year – he was very diligent, fair, prompt and very approachable.

Cllr. C. Keelan enjoyed working with Cllr. Bell. He stated that Cllr. Bell was an excellent Chair – meetings were dealt with in a prompt and efficient fashion.

Cllr. F. Godfrey wished Cllr. Bell the best and stated that he brought professionalism to the job and that he had the community at heart.

The Chief Executive thanked Cllr. Bell for his kind remarks and stated that it was a pleasure to with him. His last event as Cathaoirleach was in Omeath (north Louth) – far from his beloved Drogheda.

The Chief Executive thanked and congratulated all outgoing Cathaoirligh and Mayor and welcomed the new Mayor and Cathaoirligh, on behalf of management team and the staff, and is looking forward to working together. She advised that her door is always open to assist in any matter.

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**Minute No.104/17**

**Election of Leas Cathaoirleach**

**The Election of Leas Cathaoirleach of the County Council for the ensuing year. Section 37 of the Local Government Act, 2001 as amended**

The Cathaoirleach invited nominations for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach and the following was the outcome:-

**Proposed by Cllr. P. Bell**  
**Seconded by Cllr. O. Tully**

**Cllr. P. Smith for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach**

**Proposed by Cllr. J. Byrne**  
**Seconded by Cllr. K. Meenan**

**Cllr. E. Corrigan for the position of Leas Cathaoirleach**

A roll call vote was taken the result of which was as follows:-

<b>For Councillor P. Smith</b>	Cllrs. P. Bell, M. Butler, T. Byrne, K. Callan, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, J. McGahon, D. Minogue, L. Reilly, P. Savage, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, M. Yore
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**Total; seventeen (17)**

<b>For Councillor T. Cunningham</b>	Cllrs. J. Byrne, E. Corrigan, T. Cunningham, K. Flood, J. Green, P. McGeough, K. Meenan, A. Watters
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**Total: eight (8)**

<b>Absent</b>	Cllrs. E. Coffey, R. Culhane, D. Saurin, T. Sharkey
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**Total: four (4)**

Accordingly Cllr. Pio Smith was declared elected as Leas Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council for the ensuing year.

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That concluded the business of the AGM

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of Council held on:-

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

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

Meetings Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_