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**MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRALEE ON FRIDAY, 7 JUNE
2019.**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ AN CHÉAD CRUINIÚ BLIANTIÚIL DE COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHIARRAÍ A THIONÓLADH I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE,
TRÁ LÍ, AR AN AOINE, 7 MEITHEAMH, 2019.**

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

T. Barry	R. Beasley	M. Cahill
P. Connor-Scarreen	B. Cronin	P. Daly
C. Farrelly	T. Ferris	J. Finucane
B. Fitzgerald	F. Fitzgerald	S. Fitzgerald
J.F. Flynn	M. Foley	N. Foley
M. Gleeson	D. Grady	Jackie Healy-Rae
Johnny Healy-Rae	M. Healy-Rae	N. Kelleher
M. Kennelly	S. Locke	D. McCarthy
J. Moloney	M. Moloney	N. Moriarty
T. O'Brien	N. O'Callaghan	B. O'Connell
M. O'Shea	M. Sheehy	A. Thornton

IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR

Ms. M. Murrell, Chief Executive	Mr. C. O'Sullivan, Dir. of Operations
Mr. M. O'Donoghue, Director Housing	Mr. M. Scannell, Dir. Job Cr/Sust. ED
Mr. C. O'Connor, Director Corp. Servs.	Ms. A. McAllen, Head of Finance
Mr. J. Breen, Director Water Services	Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator
Mr. O. O'Shea, Press Officer	Ms. D. Griffin, SO Corporate Support
Ms. O. O'Shea, CO Corporate Support	Ms. B. Fitzgerald, Ec. Dev. Officer

The meeting commenced at 11.35 a.m. Cllr. N. Foley took the Chair.

Vote of Sympathy

Cllr. N. Foley proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of Cllr. J. Moloney on the passing of his father. May he rest in peace.

All Elected Members wished to be associated with this vote of sympathy.

The Chief Executive, on behalf of management and staff of Kerry County Council, extended sympathies to Cllr. Moloney and his family.

Return of Persons elected to Kerry County Council

Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator, read the Return of Persons elected to the membership of Kerry County Council as a result of the Local Elections held on Friday, 24 May 2019 as follows:

Tralee Local Electoral Area

Norma Foley (Fianna Fáil)
Toiréasa Ferris (Sinn Féin)
Terry O'Brien (Labour)
Jim Finucane (Fine Gael)
Mikey Sheehy (Fianna Fáil)
Pa Daly (Sinn Féin)
Sam Locke (Independent)

Killarney Local Electoral Area

Maura Healy-Rae (Independent)
Michael Gleeson (Kerry Independent Alliance)
Brendan Cronin (Independent)
Niall Kelleher (Fianna Fáil)
Donal Grady (Independent)
Niall Botty O'Callaghan (Independent)
Marie Moloney (Labour)

Listowel Local Electoral Area

Aoife Thornton (Fine Gael)
Mike Kennelly (Fine Gael)
Robert Beasley (Sinn Féin)
Tom Barry (Sinn Féin)
Jimmy Moloney (Fianna Fáil)
Michael Foley (Fine Gael)

Kenmare Local Electoral Area

Johnny Healy-Rae (Independent)
Norma Moriarty (Fianna Fáil)
Michael Cahill (Fianna Fáil)
John Francis Flynn (Fianna Fáil)
Patrick Connor-Scarteen (Fine Gael)
Dan McCarthy (Independent)

Castleisland Local Electoral Area

Jackie Healy-Rae (Independent)
Charlie Farrelly (Independent)
Bobby O'Connell (Fine Gael)
Fionnán Fitzgerald (Fianna Fáil)

Corca Dhuibhne Local Electoral Area

Michael O'Shea (Fianna Fáil)
Breandán Fitzgerald (Fianna Fáil)
Seamus Fitzgerald (Fine Gael)

Mr. Quinlan congratulated members on their election to Kerry County Council and wished them well for their term in office. He advised all present of the location of the Fire Exits in the Chamber in the event of an emergency. He indicated the cameras in the new Chamber and advised members that it is intended to film the handover from the outgoing Chair and the new Cathaoirleach's speech only. He advised members of the need to sign in at each meeting and said a group photo would be taken following the meeting.

Cllr. N. Foley read the following into the record of the meeting:

“A Dhaoine Uaisle go léir, is onoir mhór domsa mar Mhéara fáilte a chur roimh gach duine go dtí Áras and Chontae ar an ócáid iontach, tabhtacht seo inniú.

Chief Executive, Moira Murrell, Directors of Service, staff of Kerry County Council, members of the Press, fellow Councillors, ladies and gentlemen, it is indeed a very great pleasure for me as Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council and Mayor of Kerry to welcome you all here today on this most auspicious occasion, the ratification and formation of Local Government here in our county for the next five years 2019-2024. We, who are 33 Councillors, gather here today mindful of the inordinate privilege and awesome responsibility that is ours as we are in service and Servite to our county and her people.

As Cathaoirleach, I extend a very warm welcome to all Councillors here today both the new and indeed the not so new. I look forward to working with all of you going forward both individually and collectively as we seek to best service and shape this county we love. Comhghairdeachas ó chroí libh a Chomhleoir agus tá fíor fáilte roimh go léir anseo inniú.

As we celebrate the formation of this Council I am mindful to the former colleagues who served on this Local Authority but were not successful at the polls on May 24th last. Their service to this Chamber is neither diminished nor tarnished by their failure to be re-elected. And so with gratitude and admiration I call to mind the names of former councillors Pat McCarthy, John Sheahan, Damien Quigg, John Lucid and Thomas McEllistrim. Theirs is a legacy of honourable service to this county and for that I thank them and wish them well in the days and months and indeed the years ahead.

As my term of office as Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council draws to a close shortly I wish with your indulgence, to take a brief few moments to reflect on what has been without doubt the single greatest honour of my political career to date.

Theodore Roosevelt tells us “Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing”. As First Citizen these past 12 months it has been my privilege to work hard and to the best of my ability to promote, enhance and advance this County at every opportunity.

A whole myriad of developments has added greatly to this County over the past 12 months. Infrastructural improvements included a €53m investment in the County’s roads. The opening of a new phase of the N86 Tralee to Dingle Road in November last and the N70 Kilderry Bends Scheme between Milltown and Killorglin in April of this year.

Further progression of the rollout of the Council’s €62m Housing Programme, particularly the building programme included the opening of the new 20 bed Lios an Fhia Scheme in Killarney. 15 units in the Mitchel’s Regeneration Programme in Tralee and a number of works in progress including 21 units at Killeen, Tralee and 28 units currently being progressed at Balloonagh, Tralee.

The opening of the new €30m Water Treatment Plant at Lough Guitane, improving supply to half the homes and businesses in the County was also a red-letter day for this County.

There has also been significant progress in economic and enterprise development in Kerry in recent times. The exciting development of the Agri Tech Centre in North Kerry and the innovative RDI Hub in Killorglin are two hugely promising initiatives. We have also seen funding provided to grow and nurture our award-winning enterprise Hubs in Sneem, Castleisland, and Dingle. All of these initiatives bring with them huge employment potential for our County.

I would also like to both acknowledge and applaud the role of our Institute of Technology, the Kerry Technology Park and the Tom Crean Business Centre. There is no doubt but that they are key economic drivers in our County. I welcome in particular

the opening of the new and magnificent Sports Academy, a development which will be both a sporting and cultural boast to our County.

The invest in Kerry Brand developed by Kerry County Council and the IDA is another key element in our drive to attract foreign direct investment to Kerry, particular success in this regard this past year have been the creation of 100 jobs over 5 years by Central Pharma and the announcement of a further 100 jobs coming on stream at JRI America.

This past year has also provided opportunities to grow and further develop links with new markets. It has been my privilege to host a visiting delegation from the Zhejiang Province of China. I am hopeful this Province with a population in excess of 54m will continue to foster links which can only benefit our tourist, educational and agricultural industries. I also experienced first hand this year the infinite potential of strengthening ties with the Irish Diaspora particularly in England and the United States. Strong Kerry representation particularly in London and New York opens many doors for this County and provided wonderful opportunities to present the attractiveness of our County as a destination for Tourism and Business. We are blessed to have such contacts and it would be both remiss and short-sighted not to utilise them to the best advantage of our County.

However, if I were to choose one highlight from my term as Mayor, it would perhaps be the opportunity it provided to view first hand the wonderful spirit of Volunteering that thrives so spectacularly here in Kerry. I am conscious that the hurly burly and frantic pace of life in 2019 does not make it easy for people to find the time or indeed make the time for community involvement. And yet hundreds, indeed thousands of people the length and breadth of this County do just that. I am reminded of the wisdom of the Welsh Human Rights Activist Elizabeth Andrews who tells us “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart”. We as a County are blessed beyond measure by the generosity of heart and spirit of so many who fuel a whole myriad of organisations, projects and initiatives, and all for the benefit of this County, Go Raibh Maith Agaibh go léir.

As I begin to conclude, I would like to thank the Chief Executive, Moira Murrell, the Management and staff of Kerry County Council for their unstinting support and unfailing courtesy to me during my term in office. A particular word of thanks to my Council colleagues, for your good humour and co-operation particularly in the running of meetings. I am most grateful. A word of thanks too, to the Press for your many courtesies to me throughout the year.

Finally, to my family, a huge thank you – the year would never have been possible without your endorsement and support. A particular word of thanks to my mother, my sisters and brother and their families and most importantly to my husband Denis. Denis is not just my right-hand man, he is my left-hand man and I thank him for his unswerving support always in everything I do.

The final words I leave to the Bard himself – William Shakespeare, who advises:

“To thine own self be true,
And it must follow as the night the day
Thou canst’ not then be false to any man”

It is my fervent hope that in my term as Mayor I have proven myself true both to the County of Kerry and to the people. Go Raibh Maith Agaibh go léir.”

7.6.19.01 Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. N. Foley invited nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council.

Cllr. J. Moloney said it was a great honour for him to PROPOSE Cllr. Niall Kelleher for the position of Cathaoirleach. Cllr. Kelleher has represented the Killarney area and town so well since 2014 with the interests of Killarney, East Kerry and Kerry at heart. He had a very successful tenure as Cathaoirleach of Killarney and was involved in many committees county wide and has shown great leadership.

Cllr. F. Fitzgerald SECONDED this proposal.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae PROPOSED Cllr. Johnny Healy-Rae for the position of Cathaoirleach. Cllr. Healy-Rae has great experience and has served as an Elected Member for eight years. He is a tremendous worker for his area and the county.

Cllr. Jackie Healy-Rae SECONDED this proposal.

A vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For Cllr. Kelleher: Cllrs. Cahill, Connor-Scarteen, Cronin, Finucane, B. Fitzgerald, F. Fitzgerald, S. Fitzgerald, Flynn, M. Foley, Gleeson, Kelleher, Kennelly, Locke, J. Moloney, M. Moloney, Moriarty, O'Brien, O'Connell, O'Shea, Sheehy, Thornton, N. Foley **(22)**

For Cllr. Healy-Rae: Cllrs. Barry, Beasley, Daly, Farrelly, Ferris, Grady, Cllr. Jackie Healy-Rae, Cllr. Johnny Healy-Rae, M. Healy-Rae, O'Callaghan **(10)**

Not Voting: McCarthy **(1)**

Absent: **(0)**

Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator, declared Cllr. Kelleher elected Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council.

Cathaoirleach Kelleher then took the Chair and read the following speech into the record of the meeting.

“Chief Executive, officials and staff of Kerry County Council, fellow councillors, members of the press, members of the public, family and friends:

Being elected Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council – Mayor of Kerry – is a wonderful privilege and an incredible honour for me, for my family, for my friends and for those who have supported and encouraged me in my still fledgling career as a public representative.

I am immensely proud to be taking on this hugely important role; it is very humbling and the sense of pride I feel today is truly enormous. But I know, too, that the position brings with it a huge sense of responsibility and it is my absolute intention to ensure that this chain of office is afforded the respect, the dignity and the esteem it commands during my 12-month term.

When planning for the future, it is always important to consider what has gone before and, in that regard, I wish to thank and congratulate my good friend and colleague, Cllr Norma Foley, on her wonderful term as Mayor.

I know she worked long and hard and with great passion and dedication and I'm sure you will all concur that she was an innovative, articulate, impartial and exceptionally efficient first citizen. She has represented us, both at home and abroad, with great distinction and she has brought real honour and integrity to the role of Mayor of Kerry.

I thank Cllr Foley, her husband Denis, and her family for their wholehearted commitment over the past 12 months.

I also extend my thanks, my gratitude and my appreciation to the outgoing Deputy Mayor, John Joe Culloty. He has been an inspirational and a dynamic colleague over the past five years, as everybody in the chamber will testify. John Joe is a man of absolute integrity; he always stood up for what he believed in and he fought the good fight with passion, with dignity, with purpose and with good humour. His decision to step aside from active politics is an enormous loss to Fianna Fáil, to Kerry County Council and the entire county. I wish John Joe, Mary and their family the very best in everything they do.

Although I'm still only 33 years of age and just setting out on my second term as an elected representative, I can assure you all that there will be no need to place a booster seat behind this desk for the next 12 months. The past five years on Kerry County Council and, indeed, on Killarney Municipal District Council and the various committees on which I have served, have taught me a lot and equipped me for the challenges ahead.

I believe I have the knowledge and ideas to be able to approach this role from a different perspective. I will be a Mayor that is fair, responsible, representative of the wider community and I intend to further promote inclusivity among all groups, all persuasions and all nationalities, in every town and every village and in every parish in Kerry.

As the home of tourism, we have a very special and unique county and we are very well placed to grow and prosper even further. But we need to constantly strive to build on what has gone before, to learn from any mistakes made and successes achieved and make our county the best place to grow up in, to be educated in, to work in, to do business in, to socialise in and to grow old in.

Of course I have a number of priorities which I hope to make progress on during my term in office.

God was good to us in Kerry and as tourism is the lifeblood of the county – and the biggest single employer – I pledge my wholehearted support to those who are working constantly, tirelessly and with a great sense of purpose and professionalism to further enhance our already wonderful offering.

It is imperative that the greenways in south Kerry, Tralee to Fenit and the Great Southern greenway extension into Listowel are progressed without hesitation to ensure Kerry retains its position as the go-to county for fabulous holiday experiences and unrivalled visitor attractions. I firmly believe that the greenways will provide a wonderful new outlet and they can help copperfasten our place as the most visited destination in the country outside of Dublin.

I know that some people have reservations about the greenways but it is incumbent on us, as public representatives, to show leadership, to work with the people and help overcome their concerns.

It's all about the greater good, we have to take chances, we must not fear change or adventure and remember, a ship docked in port is safe, but that's not what ships are built for.

Traffic congestion and inadequate parking in our towns, especially Killarney, needs to be addressed as a matter of priority and I look forward to working closely with the council officials, engineers and my fellow councillors on finding solutions that work and will stand the test of time.

The development of prime sites such as the Island of Geese in Tralee and Pretty Polly and Áras Phádraig in Killarney will be very close to the top of my agenda in the year ahead. The potential there is enormous and the onus is on us to determine the best way forward and pinpoint how the facilities can be put to the best use for the maximum benefit of the people of this great county and they can no longer be allowed to remain derelict and unused.

Roads and infrastructure are essential to the development of the county. Much has been achieved, we have much more to do and I hope that over the next year, we see great progress, particularly in terms of access to our county, our towns, our villages and our neighbourhoods.

The Killarney outer bypass and inner bypass, the Dale Road, Listowel By-Pass, the Stagmount Bends in east Kerry and Local Improvement Schemes must be our priorities and, of course, there is an onus on us as a local authority to continue lobbying extensively for delivery on the long-awaited and seriously overdue Macroom and Adare bypass developments.

Last year, for the first time in 11 years, we invited applications for Local Improvement Schemes with over 800 applications received and after many years of no investment, it is my hope that we can persuade our colleagues at national level and the government to increase the funding allocated to LIS schemes to ensure it isn't another 11 years of no action and no funding.

We must help to highlight and tackle crippling insurance costs for business and acknowledge that the old draconian rates system is no longer fit for purpose. A special rates incentive scheme, such as the pilot in Tralee, should be extended to other towns and villages across the county.

As a body of elected representatives, we need to tackle the issues of housing, mental health and climate action – real issues, real problems that deserve everybody's attention.

I pledge my complete support to all initiatives that will promote and enhance the economic development of this proud county and I hope to travel wide and far throughout this wonderful place we call home to meet the people, to listen to the people, to hear what's important to them and to assure them of our support. And then we must all work together to deliver what we can to them.

I will toil long and hard during the year to promote not only my native Rathmore and the town of Killarney, where I work and live, but every town and village and the people that live in them. My term in office will be all inclusive and wide-reaching and I will, on another day, outline a number of initiatives that will make the office of Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council – Mayor of Kerry – more accessible and more meaningful for the people.

I am not afraid to work hard and I am passionate about the projects I embrace. I am never afraid to speak my mind but I won't speak for the sake of it and if I feel it will help improve the lot of people and the areas we live in, I shall continue speaking out for the people and raising their concerns.

As I have said many times in the past, coming from a business background, I find it very hard sometimes to deal with the over-the-top bureaucracy which an organisation such as this can often experience. I readily accept that we have to work within boundaries but I just hope we can work smarter and faster to get the job done.

My pledge to the good people of Kerry – our people, our friends and our neighbours – is that in the year ahead I will work with all the elected members and the executive in the best interests of this great Kingdom to ensure all our communities – bar none – are given the opportunity to develop, to grow and to prosper and that the people have cause to stand tall.

Today I stand and salute one man in particular and I'm thrilled that he is here with us for this occasion. He's a man who has been more of an inspiration to me than he will

ever know or ever appreciate. My first introduction to politics, encouraged by my late grandmother Margaret, was in 2002 when, as an impressionable 15-year-old, I accompanied my grandfather, Connie Kelleher, on a very extensive canvass for Tom Fleming.

It was a privilege to watch a master at work and, though he might not realise it, I learned so much from him and the purpose and vigour with which he set about his mission in that election campaign was inspirational.

When I first put my name forward for Kerry County Council in 2014, it was Connie Kelleher that travelled here to Tralee to nominate me. Last month, when I returned to do it all again, it was my 94-year-old grandfather that stood by my side and nominated me. And before he left the conference room that day, Connie Kelleher, my grandfather and my inspiration, assured the staff that he would be back to do it all again in 2024. And, dear people, don't bet against it.

I thank my Fianna Fáil party colleagues, especially my proposer Cllr. Jimmy Moloney and my seconder, Cllr. Fionnán Fitzgerald, for honouring me by nominating me as the first Cathaoirleach of the new council. I thank the people of the Killarney Electoral Area who supported me in such great numbers on May 24 which puts me in this position here today.

I warmly congratulate all of my elected colleagues, those who are returning to familiar territory here today and those taking up their positions for the first time, on their success at the polls. I look forward to working with you and maybe occasionally fighting with you over the next five years.

And last but certainly by no means least, I acknowledge the presence here today of my own family. It's a proud day for my parents, Paudie and Julie, my uncles and my favourite aunt who are here today and my three brothers in Australia who will, no doubt, hear all about this a little later on. If I can persuade the three of them to return home, maybe we could create a little political dynasty of our own one day. I thank my wonderful wife, Linda, whose first year of married life was taken up with preparing for and fighting an election. The support, encouragement, advice and wisdom she offers me has been my rock and if she didn't have my back every step of the way, I just couldn't do it.

I say hello and send out huge hugs too today to Portia, Noah and our bouncing three-month-old baby boy Conlaoch. In years to come, as he looks back on old photographs, I'm sure he will be forgiven for thinking that Fianna Fáil stickers and 'Vote No 1 Kelleher' were the must-have fashion accessories on all baby-grows in 2019.

My grandfather may have inspired me and sparked my interest in political life and being a public representative, but I have to stress today that I am very much my own man. I make my own decisions and while I follow in nobody's footsteps, I intend to leave my own footprint on the role of Mayor of Kerry.

I will always stand up for what I believe in – even if it means I'm standing alone. And like Cllr Norma Foley here today, I hope that this time next year, I'll be a very hard act to follow.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh.”

Cllr. Johnny Healy-Rae congratulated Cllr. Kelleher on being elected Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council; it is a prestigious honour and a proud day for your family, Rathmore and East Kerry. He congratulated all Councillors elected following the recent Local Elections and commiserated with those who were not re-elected. He thanked everyone who helped with the Healy-Rae election campaign.

Cllr. B. O'Connell said he was delighted to see Cllr. Kelleher elected as Cathaoirleach. Having worked with him in the Killarney area he saw that Cllr. Kelleher served with

distinction and professionalism and he looks forward to working with him as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. M. Gleeson referred to outgoing Cathaoirleach N. Foley's speech and said her statement "working hard at work worth doing" is very true of her term as Cathaoirleach; a term served with dignity and elegance. He said Cllr. Kelleher served Killarney Municipal District well in the past and wished him well in his role as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. B. Cronin complimented Cllr. N. Foley as outgoing Cathaoirleach for an excellent year where she represented this county at an excellent level. He said it is a very proud day for Cllr. Kelleher, his parents, grandparents, wife and family and he wished him success as Cathaoirleach over the coming year. He said his campaign team is thrilled that a Cronin from Ballyhar starts a 42nd year taking a Council seat, despite a hard year with boundary changes. He thanked Dan O'Sullivan, who for the 8th time, nominated a Cronin who was successful at election. He also thanked his own family and every person who had confidence in him by electing him to Council.

Cllr. S. Locke complimented Cllr. N. Foley on her successful term as Cathaoirleach. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach. He said there are a lot of issues to be addressed regarding social housing and the social housing list must be further reduced. He complimented the Councillors who lost their seats on their work while in office and wished them well in the future.

Cllr. N. Moriarty paid tribute to outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. N. Foley, on a great job done with elegance and dignity. Cllr. Foley did us as a county and the Fianna Fáil party very proud. She wished Cllr. N. Kelleher every success as Cathaoirleach in representing the Fianna Fáil party and every citizen of the county. She said having worked with Cllr. Kelleher over the last five years she has no doubt that he will be successful in this role and achieve the ambitious goals he has set out.

Cllr. T. O'Brien complimented Cllr. N. Foley on her successful term as Cathaoirleach and said she is a great person to work with. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach adding that it is a proud day for him and his family and wishing him success over the coming year.

Cllr. D. Grady congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach and said it is a proud day for his family. He wished Cllr. Kelleher well over the next year. He thanked Cllr. N. Foley for a very successful year as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. P. Daly paid tribute to those who were not elected, particularly Damian Quigg. He congratulated Cllr. N. Foley on a stellar year as Cathaoirleach and as a great representative for the county. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach and wished him well over the coming year. He said Sinn Féin feel strongly about issues mentioned in the Cathaoirleach's speech, particularly social housing, the walkway projects and the Denny site development in Tralee.

Cllr. D. McCarthy complimented Cllr. N. Foley on an excellent year as Cathaoirleach. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach. He said tourism and farming are important issues that must be progressed within the county.

Cllr. Jackie Healy-Rae congratulated Cllr. N. Foley on her year as Cathaoirleach and said he followed with great interest her year as Cathaoirleach. He congratulated

Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach and wished him well for the coming year. He acknowledged the presence of his own parents in the Chamber today and said they are delighted to see him taking up a seat on Kerry County Council. He thanked all his family and friends for their help during the election campaign.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae complimented Cllr. N. Foley on her year as Cathaoirleach during which she was professional, prepared and well-spoken in representing the county. She congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach on what is an exceptionally proud day for his Grandfather and family. She paid tribute to all outgoing Councillors who lost their seats. She thanked the electorate for their tremendous support in the Killarney Municipal District and said to receive the highest number of votes in the county is amazing. She said she would continue her tremendous hard work for her constituents. She thanked her family for their support, in particular her father, and thanked all those that supported her election campaign.

Cllr. J.F. Flynn welcomed the family of Cathaoirleach N. Kelleher and the families of the newly Elected Members to the Chamber and said families are drawn into politics because of their family member being elected and their support must be acknowledged. He congratulated all returned Councillors and commiserated with outgoing Councillors, particularly Damian Quigg and acknowledged the great work he did during his term for the betterment of his area. He congratulated Cllr. N. Foley on a great year during which she represented Kerry County Council so well. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach, a proud day for his family, and said he is sure he will represent the county well over the coming year.

Cllr. N. O'Callaghan congratulated Cllr. N. Foley on a great year and said she held the chain of office in great esteem. He wished Cllr. N. Kelleher well in his role as Cathaoirleach and said he looks forward to working with him in the Council Chamber and in the Killarney Municipal District area. He said in relation to his own election campaign he is the only Councillor in the history of the state that did not knock on doors or erect election posters. He thanked everyone that voted for him in the Killarney electoral area.

Cllr. J. Finucane, on behalf of the Fine Gael party, congratulated Cllr N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach and wished him well for the coming year. He paid tribute to Cllr. N. Foley on her year as Cathaoirleach and said she has tremendous capacity, courtesy and ability to speak and make presentations.

Cllr. R. Beasley paid tribute to former Councillors that were not re-elected, in particular Damian Quigg, and Councillors that retired. He commended Cllr. N. Foley on a tremendous year as Cathaoirleach. He wished Cllr. N. Kelleher well in his role as Cathaoirleach over the coming year.

Cllr. C. Farrelly congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach and to Cllr. N. Foley as outgoing Cathaoirleach. He thanked his partner, Martina, for her support during the election campaign and thanked everyone that voted for him in the local elections. He said he ran a no-poster election campaign and he looks forward to working on behalf of Castleisland-Corca Dhuibhne Municipal District.

Cllr. M. Cahill congratulated Cllr. N. Foley on a great year as Cathaoirleach. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election to the role of Cathaoirleach and said he has no doubt that Cllr. Kelleher will carry out the duties of Cathaoirleach with dignity and

fairness and will do what is best for Kerry, its people and its communities. He paid tribute to Councillors that were not re-elected.

Cllr. M. Moloney said she is delighted to be elected to Kerry County Council again and she thanked her husband, family, friends and team for their support during the election campaign. She acknowledged the great work done by Cllr. N. Foley during her year as Cathaoirleach. She wished incoming Cathaoirleach, Cllr. N. Kelleher, all the best for the year ahead.

Dúirt Clr. B. Fitzgerald: "Comhghairdeas a chara, ar dtús ba mhaith liom cúpla focal a rá mar gheall ar ár lar Cathaoirleach, Norma Foley. Aontaim le gach rud atá ráite mar gheall ar mo chomhghleacaithe, An Comhairleoir Norma Foley. Bean íseal, uasal ab ea í, ildánach agus cumasach in a lán slite. I gcónaí ag tabhairt cabhair agus comhairle do gach einne agus ag obair do Muintir Trá Lí agus Muintir Chiarraí i gcónaí. Lá speisialta é seo domsa, bhí mo t-athair Tom Fitzgerald tofa mar Cathaoirleach ar Chomhairle Chontae Chiarraí daichead bliain ó shin, agus sé seo an lá a fuair sé bás sé bliain ó shin agus comh maith le sin mo col ceathrar Siobhán Mythen a d'imigh ar slí na fírinne ar an lá a bhíos tofa. Táim fíor bhuíoch do mo chlann agus go mór mo uncail, John Joe Dorgan agus mo mháthair, Bridie Dowd. Gúim gach rath ort, ár Cathaoirleach nua, An Comhairleoir Niall Kelleher agus do gach Comhairleoir atá tofa agus mar a deireann muid i gCorca Dhuibhne, beir bua agus beannacht!"

Cllr. M. Sheehy congratulated Cllr. N. Foley on her last 12 months as Cathaoirleach and said her achievement of over 2,000 votes at the election is a great achievement. He said she is full of integrity and an incredible leader. He congratulated Cllr. N. Kelleher on his election as Cathaoirleach and said it is a great honour for him and his family. He thanked his own family for their support during his election campaign.

The Chief Executive welcomed the new Council and new Elected Members. She acknowledged the work of the eight outgoing Councillors and wished them well for the future. She acknowledged the work of outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. N. Foley, and said she worked hard and promoted the county to the best of her ability and very successfully. She wished Cllr. N. Kelleher the best for the year ahead as Cathaoirleach. She said as we start a new five year term there is a lot of work ongoing and big projects to progress with a work programme to the value of a ¼ billion to get through.

7.6.19.02 Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

Cathaoirleach N. Kelleher called for nominations for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. N. Foley PROPOSED that Cllr. N. Moriarty be appointed to the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach. She said Cllr. Moriarty is an outstanding ambassador to the Chamber and she will bring honour and distinction to the role of Leas-Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. M. Cahill SECONDED this proposal.

Cllr. Cllr. Johnny Healy-Rae PROPOSED Cllr. D. Grady for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. T. Ferris SECONDED this proposal.

A vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For Cllr. Moriarty: Cllrs. Cahill, Connor-Scarteen, Finucane, B. Fitzgerald, F. Fitzgerald, S. Fitzgerald, Flynn, M. Foley, N. Foley, Kennelly, McCarthy, J. Moloney, M. Moloney, Moriarty, O'Brien, O'Connell, O'Shea, Sheehy, Thornton, Kelleher **(20)**

For Cllr. Grady: Cllrs. Beasley, Cronin, Daly, Farrelly, Ferris, Gleeson, Grady, Jackie Healy-Rae, Johnny Healy-Rae, M. Healy-Rae, O'Callaghan **(11)**

Not Voting: Locke **(1)**

Absent: Barry **(1)**

The Cathaoirleach declared Cllr. N. Moriarty elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. N. Moriarty thanked her proposer, seconder and all who voted for her and said it is an honour to be elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.

7.6.19.03 Appointments to Committees

Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator, informed the meeting that group voting, as provided for in Paragraph 18, Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2001 applies to the appointment of committees. He requested members to take their time in making nominations to allow all proposals to be recorded accurately. The number of members required to form a group would depend on the number of members in the Chamber when nominations are being made.

Cllr. J. Finucane said there is consensus amongst the Elected Members regarding appointments to Committees.

a) Chairs-designate of Strategic Policy Committees

Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator, informed the meeting it is intended to have five Strategic Policy Committees.

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that one Chair-designate be shared by Cllr. R. Beasley and Cllr. B. Cronin.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated Chairs-designate of the remaining four Strategic Policy Committees:

- Cllr. N. Foley
- Cllr. M. O'Shea
- Cllr. M. Kennelly
- Cllr. M. Cahill for 2 years, with Cllr. Michael Foley succeeding him for the next 2 years and Cllr. Sam Locke succeeding him for the remaining year.

b) Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that Cllr. C. Farrelly be nominated to the Local Community Development Committee.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Local Community Development Committee:

- Cllr. N. Kelleher
- Cllr. N. Moriarty
- Cllr. M. Foley

c) Audit Committee

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that Cllr. N. Kelleher and Cllr. B. O'Connell be nominated to the Audit Committee.

d) Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the Joint Policing Committee:

- Cllr. T. Barry
- Cllr. C. Farrelly
- Cllr. D. Grady
- Cllr. Jackie Healy-Rae

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Joint Policing Committee:

- Cllr. N. Kelleher
- Cllr. N. Moriarty
- Cllr. J.F. Flynn
- Cllr. B. Fitzgerald
- Cllr. M. Sheehy
- Cllr. M. Cahill
- Cllr. B. O'Connell
- Cllr. J. Finucane
- Cllr. M. Kennelly
- Cllr. M. Foley
- Cllr. S. Fitzgerald

e) Kerry County Rural Water Committee

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that Cllr. Johnny Healy-Rae be nominated to the Kerry County Rural Water Committee.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Kerry County Rural Water Committee:

- Cllr. D. McCarthy
- Cllr. F. Fitzgerald
- Cllr. M. Foley

f) Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that Cllr. D. Grady be nominated to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee:

- Cllr. N. Kelleher
- Cllr. N. Moriarty
- Cllr. J. Finucane
- Cllr. M. Foley

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin the nominations to Committees as set out at (a)-(f) above were unanimously agreed.

7.6.19.04 Appointment of Representatives

a) Association of Irish Local Government

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that Cllr. C. Farrelly be nominated to the Association of Irish Local Government.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Association of Irish Local Government:

- to be shared by Cllr. J. Moloney and Cllr. M. Cahill
- to be shared by Cllr. B. Fitzgerald and Cllr. S. Fitzgerald

b) Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that Cllr. B. O'Connell be nominated to the Local Authority Members Association.

c) Southern Regional Assembly

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that Cllr. R. Beasley be nominated to the Southern Regional Assembly.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Southern Regional Assembly:

- Cllr. M. O'Shea
- Cllr. S. Fitzgerald

d) Regional Health Forum - South

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that Cllr. M. Gleeson be nominated to the Regional Health Forum - South.

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Regional Health Forum - South:

- Cllr. N. Moriarty
- Cllr. M. Sheehy
- Cllr. N. Kelleher
- To be shared by Cllr. M. Kennelly and Cllr. M. Foley

e) Kerry Education and Training Board (KETB)

Cllr. T. Ferris said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the Kerry Education and Training Board:

- Cllr. P. Daly
- Cllr. T. Ferris
- Cllr. N. O'Callaghan
- Cllr. M. Healy-Rae

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that the following members be nominated to the remaining positions on the Kerry Education and Training Board:

- Cllr. N. Foley
- Cllr. M. Cahill
- Cllr. N. Moriarty
- Cllr. F. Fitzgerald
- Cllr. J. Finucane
- Cllr. A. Thornton
- Cllr. T. O'Brien
- Cllr. M. Moloney

f) Southern Regional Drugs Task Force

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that Cllr. M. Sheehy and Cllr. B. Fitzgerald be nominated to the Southern Regional Drugs Task Force.

g) South Kerry Development Partnership

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that Cllr. M. Moloney be nominated to the South Kerry Development Partnership.

h) Killarney National Park Liaison Committee

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that Cllr. Cllr. N. Kelleher be nominated to the Killarney National Park Liaison Committee.

i) MacGillycuddy Reeks Mountain Forum

Cllr. J. Finucane said consensus has been reached that Cllr. J.F. Flynn be nominated to the MacGillycuddy Reeks Mountain Forum.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Finucane, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin the nominations to Committees as set out at (a)-(i) above were unanimously agreed.

7.6.19.05 Schedule of Ordinary Meetings

Mr. L. Quinlan, Meetings Administrator, informed the meeting that members must agree a schedule of ordinary meetings and it is suggested that the existing arrangement whereby meetings are held on the third Monday of each month would continue. No meeting is held in the month of August.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Fitzgerald, SECONDED by Cllr. J.F. Flynn, it was agreed to fix the schedule of ordinary meetings as per the existing arrangement whereby meetings are held on the third Monday of each month and no meeting is held in the month of August.

7.6.19.06 Date for the first meetings of the Municipal District Members

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N. Foley, SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was unanimously agreed that the first meetings of the following Municipal Districts would be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings on Friday, 14 June 2019 at the following times:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| a) Tralee | 9.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. |
| b) Castleisland-Corca Dhuibhne | 10.45 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. |
| c) Killarney | 12.00 p.m. - 1.15 p.m. |

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. M. Kennelly, SECONDED by Cllr. A. Thornton it was unanimously agreed that the first meetings of the following Municipal Districts would be held in the Council Chamber, County Buildings on Monday, 17 June 2019 at the following times:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| d) Kenmare | 9.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m. |
| e) Listowel | 10.45 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. |

7.6.19.07 Approval to attend Induction Training for Elected Members

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J. Moloney, SECONDED by Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen it was agreed to approve the attendance of all Councillors at the Induction Training for Elected Members to be held on Saturday, 13 July 2019 in the Horse & Jockey Hotel, Co. Tipperary.

7.6.19.08 Approval for the Opening of Tenders

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J.F. Flynn, SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin, it was agreed to approve the opening of any tender that may arise, since the May Council Meeting, up to the July Council Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 1.30 p.m.

Liam Quinlan
Meetings Administrator

Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council