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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH & WEST KERRY HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CONTAE, TRALEE ON FRIDAY 30th JUNE 2017.

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AN CRUINNIÚ BLIANTIÚIL DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHIARRAÍ THAR AGUS THEAS A THIONÓLADH I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRÁ LÍ, AR AN 30 JUNE, 2017.

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

**Cllr. M. Cahill
Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen
Cllr. S. Fitzgerald
Cllr. J. F. Flynn
Cllr. J. Healy-Rae
Cllr. D. McCarthy
Cllr. N. Moriarty
Cllr. M. O' Shea
Cllr D. Quigg**

IN ATTENDANCE/I LÁTHAIR

Mr. M. O' Donoghue	Delegated Executive for South and West Kerry MD
Ms. B. Conway	Meetings Administrator.
Mr. O O' Shea	Press Officer
Mr. T. Sheehy	S.E.
Ms. C. Fitzgerald	A.S.O Corporate Affairs

The meeting commenced at 11.20am.

Outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr J. F. Flynn thanked his colleagues for allowing him the honour of being Cathaoirleach of the South & West Kerry Municipal District. He also thanked the members for their co-operation, which allowed the meetings to run very efficiently. He offered his sincere gratitude to Mr M. Oq Donoghue, Ms. Jean Foley, Mr. Pádraic Teahan and the staff of the South & West Kerry Municipal District for their help and assistance throughout the year. He stated that he believed that more needs to be done to promote tourism in the South & West and also requested that a conference for the Diaspora would be held in this county. Finally he offered his best wishes to Mr. Danny Tim Oq Sullivan who is currently unwell in hospital in England. Mr. OqSullivan a native

of South Kerry has been very good to many immigrants who have travelled to England for work.

On behalf of the staff and Management of the South & West Kerry Municipal District, Mr. M. O'Donoghue congratulated Cllr. J. F. Flynn on a very successful year and thanked him for his assistance. He wished him well for the future.

17.06/30.01 Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr P. Connor-Scarteen PROPOSED Cllr. S. Fitzgerald to be elected Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen stated that it was an honour to propose Cllr. S. Fitzgerald as Cathaoirleach. Cllr. S. Fitzgerald has been an elected member of Kerry County Council since 1999 and previously served as Cathaoirleach of the county and a representative of the Dingle Peninsula. He is a member of the board of Údarás na Gaeltachta and a native Irish speaker, which is a fantastic asset to this Municipal District. It is very important that the Irish language is promoted. One of his many hobbies is hill walking where he is currently Chairperson of the Dingle Walking Club.

Cllr. M. O. Shea SECONDED Cllr. P. Connor. Scarteen's proposal.

Cllr. M. O'Shea stated that Cllr S. Fitzgerald is a very experienced councillor. He previously served as Cathaoirleach of the county and as Chairperson of the Dingle Electoral Area. He said he had no doubt that Cllr. S. Fitzgerald will be an excellent Cathaoirleach. He wished both him and his family the very best for the year ahead.

Ms. B Conway stated as no further proposals were made, she deemed Cllr. S. Fitzgerald to be elected Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. S. Fitzgerald then took the chair.

The newly elected Cathaoirleach Cllr S. Fitzgerald thanked his proposer and seconder and all his colleagues for their support and voting unanimously for him. He acknowledged that the Municipal District has a lot of challenges facing it. He referred to the recently published Annual Report which highlighted the number of organisations and project that both Kerry County Council and in particular the South & West Kerry Municipal District have an involvement in. He made particular reference to the South Kerry Greenway and said it is imperative that the members support this project, as it will be vital in rejuvenating the economy of South Kerry. He raised concerns regarding the decline of employment in the fishing industry. He stated that the South & West Kerry Municipal District has been devastated with immigration and commended the work of Enterprise Ireland, Údaras na Gaeltachta and Kerry County Council in their efforts to promote and maintain employment in this county. Public Representatives would be lost without the support of the voluntary committees

and he took the opportunity to pay tribute to them. These committees are responsible for bringing projects to the frontline. He reiterated his gratitude to his colleagues and said that he looked forward to working with them throughout the year.

Cllr. M. Cahill complimented the outgoing Cathaoirleach on a very successful year and said he did his family very proud. He congratulated Cllr. S. Fitzgerald on his nomination and wished him well for the year ahead. He said that Cllr S. Fitzgerald was a very fair person and had no doubt that he will do an excellent job. There are many challenges facing this Municipal District and referred in particular to the lack of high quality Broadband in South Kerry. He called upon all members to support the South Kerry Greenway. South Kerry is an area in population decline and said it is vital that this project comes to fruition. He raised concerns regarding the lack of housing in the county and said he was aware of three cases where private landlords have served tenants with Notices to Quit. He said he believed that there is a very serious housing crisis looming and he called upon the council to address this matter urgently. He also wished to be associated with Cllr. J. F. Flynn's well wishes to Mr. Danny Tim O'Sullivan. This man has helped thousands of people living in both this county and abroad.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. S. Fitzgerald stated that all members wished to be associated with the well wishes for Danny Tim O'Sullivan. He said that Mr. O'Sullivan was always very courteous to him and has helped many people in this county.

Cllr. D McCarthy congratulated Cllr. J. F. Flynn on his success as Cathaoirleach. He said that Cllr. J. F. Flynn is one of the youngest elected members in this county, if not country and he would encourage and welcome more people of his age to enter into politics. Cllr. D. McCarthy congratulated the newly elected Cathaoirleach and said he welcomed a Cathaoirleach from a farming background.

Cllr. Healy-Rae thanked Cllr. J. F. Flynn for serving as a very fair Cathaoirleach and wished him well for the future. He said that he had no doubt that his family would be very proud of him. He expressed well wishes to Cllr. S. Fitzgerald and said the newly elected Cathaoirleach was held in a very high regard in this county.

Cllr. D Quigg wished to concur with the comments expressed by previous members. He congratulated his neighbour Cllr. J. F. Flynn on a very successful year. He said that he treated all members very fairly and took on the challenges he encountered very successfully.

Cllr. D. Quigg congratulated Cllr. S. Fitzgerald on his new role and said he previously served as a very fair Cathaoirleach of the county. He acknowledged that there are many important issues facing this Municipal District and referred to the current situation at St. Mary of the Angles in Beaufort. He stated that both him and Cllr. J. F. Flynn recently visited the facility and were advised that due to the shortage of a nurse and physiotherapist, a child is unable to go to

school there. He asked that this Municipal District continues to highlight the problems at this facility.

Cllr. P. Connor-Scarteen commended the outgoing Cathaoirleach and said he took his role very seriously. He afforded deputations time to address their concerns and chaired the meeting very efficiently. He used his position to highlight many issues in this Municipal District including St. Mary of the Angles, the construction of the South Kerry Greenway and the issues of anti-social behaviour in Killorglin.

Cllr. N. Moriarty thanked Cllr. J. F. Flynn for a job well done and commended him on chairing the meeting so efficiently. She congratulated Cllr. S. Fitzgerald on his nomination and wished him well for the year ahead. She welcomed his comments on the annual report and requested that he would support the UNESCO project in Valentia Island. She offered well wishes to Mr. Danny Tim OqSullivan.

Cllr M. OqShea congratulated the outgoing Cathaoirleach on a successful year. He concurred with his comments regarding tourism in South Kerry and referred to his recent trip to Germany as Cathaoirleach of the County, where he seen first hand, purpose built cycle ways stretching for miles with several amenities on the route, such as shops and restaurants. It is a fantastic facility and it is something that this Municipal District should pursue. Mr. T. Sheehy of the Capital Infrastructure Unit has done everything possible to ensure that the Greenway from Glenbeigh to Caherciveen comes to fruition. He stated that he was fearful that the funding for the Greenway would be reallocated and called upon his fellow colleagues to support Mr. T. Sheehy. He referred to Cllr. N. Moriarty's comments on the application for UNESCO status for Valentia Island and said that everything must be done to support this application.

Cllr. S. Fitzgerald congratulated Cllr. J. F. Flynn on a very successful year and thanked everybody for their kind words.

17.06.30.02 Election of Leas Cathaoirleach

Cllr. D. McCarthy PROPOSED that Cllr. N. Moriarty be elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. J. Healy-Rae SECONDED this proposal.

As no further proposals were made, Ms. B. Conway deemed Cllr. N. Moriarty to be elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. J. F. Flynn thanked the members for their kind words and congratulated both Cllr. S. Fitzgerald and Cllr. N. Moriarty on their nomination as Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach respectively. There are many issues facing the members in this Municipal District and referred in particular to St. Mary of the Angles, Beaufort. He commended the staff at the facility, who he said are doing a fantastic job. Currently there is a part time nurses employed

three days a week. However as there is no nurse working on the remaining two days, it is preventing a child from going to the facility. He stated that there are uncertain times ahead of us in light of Brexit and referred to how this will impact on our fishing quotas and the division of the waters. He thanked the Municipal District Engineers for their help and assistance throughout the year. Finally he paid tribute to the media for attending the Municipal District meetings and highlighting the good work that is been done by the members in this area.

Mr. M OqDonoghue congratulated both the newly elected Cathaoirleach and Leas-Cathaoirleach and stated that he wished to be associated with the comments bestowed upon them by his colleagues.

17.06.30.03 To agree a nominee to the CPG.

Cllr. D. M. Carthy PROPOSED that Cllr. S. Fitzgerald would be elected as a nominee to the CPG.

Cllr. M. OqShea SECONDED this proposal.

The meeting concluded at 12.01p.m.

Brenda Conway
Meetings Administrator

Cllr. S Fitzgerald
Cathaoirleach of South &
West Kerry Municipal
District