



Cornhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

## **Louth County Council Annual Meeting**

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Louth County Council hosted in the Council Chamber of Co. Hall, Dundalk on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023, at 10:00a.m.

### **In Attendance:**

**Presiding:** Councillor, Conor Keelan - Cathaoirleach

**Members:** Councillors: Marianne Butler, Paula Butterly, James Byrne, Joanna Byrne, Bernie Conlon, Tom Cunningham, Emma Cutlip, Michelle Hall, Seán Kelly, Pearse McGeough, Andrea McKevitt, Paddy McQuillan, Kevin Meenan, Dolores Minogue, Robert Nash, Declan Power, John Reilly, Liam Reilly, Tomás Sharkey, John Sheridan, Pío Smith, Eileen Tully, Antóin Watters, Maeve Yore

**Apologies:** Councillors: Kevin Callan, Emma Coffey Edel Corrigan, Jim Tenanty

**Officials:** Joan Martin, Chief Executive  
Joe McGuinness, Director of Services  
Gráinne Tuomey, Meeting Administrator  
John Lawrence, A/Director of Services  
Bernie Woods, Director of Services  
Willie Walsh, A/Director of Services  
Thomas McEvoy, Director of Service  
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer  
Turlough King, Senior Executive Planner  
Susan Deery, Administrative Officer

### **Minute No. 94/23**

#### **Election of Cathaoirleach**

On taking his seat, the Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Cllr. Conor Keelan said it had been a great honour to serve as Cathaoirleach for the past 12 months, he considered it a privilege to be elected and thought he had served to the best of his ability. As only the third person from Dundalk to hold the role he enjoyed serving the people of Louth and thanked his Leas-Chathaoirleach Cllr. McKevitt, his fellow Councillors, the Executive and Staff for all their assistance throughout his year.

Members congratulated the Cathaoirleach on a year well served and commented that Cllr. Keelan had carried out the role with decorum, integrity, dignity and professionalism, describing him as a diligent, fair and firm Cathaoirleach.

The Chief Executive speaking on behalf of herself and all the staff congratulated Cllr. Keelan and wished him well.

An Cathaoirleach Cllr.: Keelan then called for nominees for his replacement for the 2023 – 2024 term of office.

**Cllr. Paula Butterly** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Dolores Minogue

**Seconded by:** Cllr. John Sheridan

**Cllr Kevin Meenan** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Pearse McGeough

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Joanna Byrne

As neither candidate rejected the nomination, there were therefore 2 valid candidates for Cathaoirleach. In accordance with Section 37(g) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, a vote was called for as follows:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Nominee - Paula Butterly</b>	<b>Nominee - Kevin Meenan</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Marianne Butler				1
Paula Butterly	1			
James Byrne	1			
Joanna Byrne		1		
Kevin Callan				1
Emma Coffey				1
Bernie Conlon			1	
Edel Corrigan				1
Tom Cunningham		1		
Emma Cutlip	1			
Michelle Hall	1			
Conor Keelan	1			
Sean Kelly	1			
Pearse McGeough		1		
Andrea McKeivitt	1			
Paddy McQuillan			1	
Kevin Meenan		1		
Dolores Minogue	1			
Robert Nash	1			
Declan Power	1			
John Reilly	1			
Liam Reilly	1			
Tomás Sharkey		1		
John Sheridan	1			

Pio Smith	1			
Jim Tenanty				1
Eileen Tully	1			
Antóin Watters		1		
Maeve Yore			1	
	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>

And **Cllr. Paula Butterly** was elected **Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council**

### Minute No. 95/23

#### Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach

Having taken her seat as the new Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Cllr Paula Butterly called for nominations for Leas-Chathaoirleach.

**Cllr. Andrea McKevitt** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. James Byrne

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Seán Kelly

**Cllr. Paddy McQuillan** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Maeve Yore

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Bernie Conlon

**Cllr. Antóin Watters** was nominated on the:

**Proposal of:** Cllr. Joanna Byrne

**Seconded by:** Cllr. Kevin Meenan

As there were more than 2 candidates, in accordance with Section 37(c) a poll was taken as follows:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Nominee - Andrea McKevitt</b>	<b>Nominee - Paddy McQuillan</b>	<b>Nominee - Antóin Watters</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Marianne Butler	1				
Paula Butterly	1				
James Byrne	1				
Joanna Byrne			1		
Kevin Callan					1
Emma Coffey					1
Bernie Conlon		1			
Edel Corrigan					1
Tom Cunningham			1		
Emma Cutlip	1				
Michelle Hall	1				

Conor Keelan	1				
Sean Kelly	1				
Pearse McGeough			1		
Andrea McKeivitt	1				
Paddy McQuillan		1			
Kevin Meenan			1		
Dolores Minogue	1				
Robert Nash	1				
Declan Power	1				
John Reilly	1				
Liam Reilly	1				
Tomás Sharkey			1		
John Sheridan	1				
Pio Smith	1				
Jim Tenanty					1
Eileen Tully	1				
Antóin Watters			1		
Maeve Yore		1			
	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

As the majority of Members presented voted for Cllr. Andrea McKeivitt, **Cllr. McKeivitt was deemed elected** in accordance with Section 37(d) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

### Minute No. 96/23

#### Congratulations and Welcome

Cllr Butterly thanked Members for voting for her and advised that she hoped to she would be able to carry out her duties in the same manner as she had in her previous role as Cathaoirleach of Ardee MD and with the same amazing cooperation and collaboration of her fellow Members. Elected Members welcomed her to the role and wished both her and Cllr. McKeivitt well in the year ahead, a sentiment that was echoed by the Chief Executive on behalf of officials and staff.

That concluded the Annual Meeting.

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

Date:

17 July 2023

Cathaoirleach:

Paula Butterly

Meeting Administrator:

Alan Quinlan