

Municipal District of Dundalk – 7th June 2022

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Dundalk hosted in The Chamber of Town Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday 7th June at 5.15 p.m.

In attendance:

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Maria Doyle

Members: Councillors Marianne Butler, Emma Coffey, Edel Corrigan, Conor Keelan, Seán Kelly, Andrea McKeivitt, Kevin Meenan, Liam Reilly, John Reilly, Tomás Sharkey, Antóin Watters

Apologies: Maeve Yore

Officials: Thomas McEvoy, A/Director of Services
Gráinne Tuomey, Meetings Administrator
Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
John O'Hagan, Senior Engineer
Martin McCreesh, Senior Executive Engineer

Minute No. 47/22

Speech from outgoing Cathaoirleach

The outgoing Cathaoirleach, Councillor Maria Doyle welcomed everyone to the annual meeting remarking that it was good to be able to hold this annual meeting in person unlike last year.

Councillor Maria Doyle took the opportunity to thank her fellow members for the cooperation and support shown to her throughout what was a strange year, from hosting meetings online in County Hall, to going completely remote and then recently fully in person at the Town Hall Chamber, noting that some of the Members had only set foot in the chamber for the first time recently. Councillor Maria Doyle thanked the Executive and the Meeting Administrator for their support throughout and as one of the Directors had recently retired and had been replaced she thanked both Frank Pentony and Thomas McEvoy, Directors of Service, along with all staff who attended meetings and assisted with queries. The media were thanked for their cooperation, as was the Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Kevin Meenan for his support.

Members complimented Councillor Maria Doyle on her work on what was described as a very strange year and it was remarked that she was a firm, fair and easily accessible chair to Members. On behalf of the Executive, Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services thanked Councillor Maria Doyle for performing admirably during a difficult year.

Minute No. 48/22

A request for nominations for election was called.

Councillor Antóin Watters nominated Councillor Kevin Meenan as Cathaoirleach. Councillor Edel Corrigan seconded this.

As there were no other nominees, **Councillor Kevin Meenan was deemed elected** in accordance with Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Councillor Maria Doyle vacated the seat to make way for the next Cathaoirleach Kevin Meenan.

Councillor Kevin Meenan whose daughter was in the public gallery, remarked that it was amazing for him to be elected, as he had last held the role in 2004 when his daughter was a baby. He said he was really proud to be there and he hoped to be a fair Cathaoirleach with his door open to all Members; however due to a number of recent tragedies in the town he felt it would be remiss of him to celebrate too much.

Minute No. 49/22

Nominees for Leas Cathaoirleach were then called for.

Councillor Andrea McKeivitt proposed that **Councillor Sean Kelly** be elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

This was seconded by Councillor Liam Reilly.

As there were no other nominees, **Councillor Seán Kelly was deemed elected Leas Cathaoirleach** in accordance with Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Thanking Members for nominating and electing him to the role of Leas Cathaoirleach, Councillor Sean Kelly looked forward to working with Councillor Kevin Meenan who he thought would be an excellent ambassador for the Municipal District.

Members welcomed and wished both the new Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach well and offered their full support during the year ahead.

On behalf of the Chief Executive and Staff of Louth County Council, Thomas McEvoy, Director of Services congratulated the Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach, and welcomed them to the roles.

This concluded the Annual Meeting for 2022.

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

Date: 7 June 2022
Cathaoirleach: Kevin Keenan
Meeting Administrator: Arla Quinlan