

**Minutes of Annual Meeting of  
Westmeath County Council held at 2.00 p.m. Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017  
in Council Chambers, Áras an Chontae, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath**

**Presiding:** Cllr Frank McDermott (Cathaoirleach).

**Members present:** Cllr. Ailish McManus, Cllr. F. Keena, Cllr. P. Hogan, Cllr. T. Farrell, Cllr. A. O'Rourke, Cllr. M. O'Brien, Cllr. P. Hill, Cllr. B. Collentine, Cllr. J. Shaw, Cllr. U. D'Arcy, Cllr. E. Wallace, Cllr. M. Dollard, Cllr. L. McDaniel, Cllr. J. Penrose, Cllr. K. Glynn, Cllr. A. Duncan, Cllr. S. Clarke.

**Officers present:** Mr. Pat Gallagher, Chief Executive.  
Mr. Barry Kehoe, Director of Service.  
Mr. David Hogan, Director of Service.  
Mr. Martin Murray, Director of Service.  
Mr. Jimmy Dalton, Head of Finance.  
Mr. Billy Coughlan, Meetings Administrator.  
Ms. Geraldine Barden, Clerical Officer.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Frank McDermott, welcomed the Members to the Annual Meeting of Westmeath County Council.

Cllr. McDermott thanked the group leaders and Elected Members of the groups for their support and loyalty throughout the year. He remarked how he had walked in the door of the Chamber for the first time 2,600 weeks ago.

Cllr. McDermott also thanked the Executive and Members of the press and thanked the staff for their great help throughout the year.

Mr. Pat Gallagher, Chief Executive, on his own behalf and on the behalf of the staff of Westmeath County Council, expressed his appreciation and thanks to Cllr McDermott for the valued co-operation of the Cathaoirleach during his term in office. The Chief Executive also acknowledged Cllr. Hill in his role as Leas-Chathaoirleach. The Chief Executive, Mr. Pat Gallagher, then made a presentation of a pictorial record to Cllr. Frank McDermott to mark his term in office as Cathaoirleach of Westmeath County Council, and noted that the 28th of June would mark 50 years since Cllr. McDermott was first elected to the Council.

**Item No. 1 - Election of Cathaoirleach**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank McDermott, sought nominations for the position of Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Paddy Hill congratulated the outgoing Cathaoirleach and proposed Cllr. John Shaw as incoming Cathaoirleach of Westmeath County Council.

Cllr. Ken Glynn formally seconded Cllr. Hill's proposal.

As there were no other nominations, Cllr McDermott declared Cllr. John Shaw elected as Cathaoirleach of Westmeath County Council for the term 2017/2018 and presented the Chain of Office to Cllr. Shaw, congratulating him on his appointment as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. John Shaw stated it was a great privilege to be elected as Cathaoirleach of Westmeath County Council. He thanked the Members for facilitating his election as Cathaoirleach. He thanked his own party and his Council colleagues.

All of the Members expressed their congratulations to Cllr. John Shaw.

**Item No. 2 - Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. John Shaw, sought nominations for the position of Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Cllr. Frank McDermott proposed Cllr. Tom Farrell for Leas-Chathaoirleach of Westmeath County Council. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Andrew Duncan. As there were no other nominations Cllr Shaw declared Cllr. Farrell elected as Leas-Chathaoirleach of Westmeath County Council for the coming year.

Cllr Farrell thanked all the Members for their support and was congratulated on his election as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

Cllr. Shaw congratulated Cllr. Farrell on his election as Leas-Chathaoirleach and wished him the best of luck in the coming year.

Mr. Pat Gallagher, Chief Executive joined with the congratulations to Cllr. Shaw on his election to Cathaoirleach, and Cllr. Farrell on his election as Leas-Chathaoirleach.

**Item No. 3 - A.O.B.**

There was no other business.

*This concluded the business of the meeting.*

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**Cathaoirleach**

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**Date**