

These Minutes are edited for Data Protection purposes because in effect putting them on the Internet is publishing them. An unedited paper copy is available on request.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILLARNEY HELD IN THE LIBRARY MEETING ROOM, KILLARNEY ON WEDNESDAY, 27 MAY 2016.

MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE SPEISIALTA DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHILL ÁIRNE A THIONÓLADH I LEABHARLANN CHILL ÁIRNE AR AN CHÉADAIOIN, 27ú BEALTAINÉ 2016.

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

**Cllr. B. Cronin
Cllr. J.J. Culloty
Cllr. M. Gleeson
Cllr. D. Grady**

**Cllr. M. Healy-Rae
Cllr. N. Kelleher
Cllr. B. O'Connell
Cllr. J. Sheahan**

In attendance/i láthair

Ms. A. McAllen	Delegated Executive for the MD of Killarney
Mr. L. Quinlan	Meetings Administrator
Mr. P. Neary	SEE Killarney MD
Ms. N. O'Sullivan	SEO Community
Ms. H. Switzer	AO Community
Mr. M. Ó Coiléaín	MD Officer
Mr. K. O'Halloran	AE Killarney MD
Ms. E. Connor	ASO Killarney MD
Ms. M. Galvin	CO Corporate Support

The meeting commenced at 3.00pm

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. B O'Connell took the Chair.

16.05.27.01 2016 Community Support Fund for Killarney Municipal District

The following report was circulated to the Members:

(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)

Ms. A. McAllen addressed the Members and stated that Kerry County Council appreciates the valuable contribution that communities make to the overall well being of the County and its people. The contribution by groups and associations enhances in a significant and meaningful way the quality of services available, the appearance of our towns, villages and landscapes, the vitality and energy of communities and the overall attractiveness of Kerry as both a destination and a place to live. In recognition of this valuable work, Kerry County Council has developed the Community Support Fund. This Fund is provided from the Local Property Tax, through the decision of the Elected Council. Contributions paid under the Community Support Fund will only be paid in respect of work to be carried out in 2016.

Ms. N O'Sullivan advised the members that this year there was a 50% increase in the number of applications on the previous year for funding from the Community Support Fund which was more than the Fund could support. In Killarney, 89 applications were received of which 64 received funding under the 2016 Community Support Fund. 30% of applications received across the 4 Municipal Districts were not successful as they did not meet the eligibility criteria. The Guideline document outlines what constitutes eligible projects. The form will be revised next year to give it more clarity. Kerry County Council will make a call for applications under the 2017 Community Support Fund in November 2016.

A lot of time has gone into assessing these applications by the Advisory Panel which is comprised of senior personnel. The recommendations from the Advisory Panel are contained in the document that has been circulated.

Cllr. D. Grady welcomed the funding but noted that some clubs and communities did not receive the funding they applied for.

Cllr. M. Gleeson stated that volunteers and voluntary groups were the backbone of our society. The support we give them is invaluable to them. Many projects are ongoing. This fund provides a huge boost and recognition to these projects. Cllr. Gleeson welcomed that decision that the Council is going to assess the applications earlier thus enabling ineligible applicants to be informed in time.

Cllr. J.J. Culloty thanked Ms. N. O'Sullivan and Ms. A. McAllen for their report. Cllr. Culloty noted that the report was fair but stated that there were projects listed that he wished had received more funding. Cllr. Culloty referred to Cllr. M. Gleeson's comments in relation to volunteerism and agreed that it was hugely important to towns like Killarney. These groups make the towns look better and this has to be welcomed. The Local Property Tax funds the Community Support Fund and it is good to see something positive coming from it.

Cllr. B. Cronin at the outset stated that he wished to declare that he has an interest in Ballyhar Community Development Group as listed at No. 1 on the report. In his role as Chairman of Ballyhar Community Development Group, he had applied for funding for the purchase of a defibrillator. Cllr. Cronin stated

that he would withdraw from the meeting if any discussion was held relating to same.

Cllr. Cronin thanked Ms. N. O'Sullivan and the staff for preparing the report and noted there were a huge number of applications. Community groups were now aware of the importance of the Community Support Fund. It was, however, disappointing to see a number of unsuccessful applications. He stated that in future, examples of ineligible projects should be provided to applicants. Cllr. Cronin stated that this Fund has created a huge boost and the urban areas have benefitted together with a broad spectrum across the constituency and he was grateful for this. Cllr. Cronin further requested that a Press Release would issue that this Community Support Fund has the full backing of all eight members of Killarney Municipal District.

Cllr. N. Kelleher at the outset stated that he had an involvement with most of the groups from Rathmore that appeared in the report and would make that declaration should they be discussed during the meeting.

Cllr. Kelleher stated that the fund was a very well received injection across the Killarney Municipal District and County. " 450,000 has been provided to projects in the last 2 years and " 1.5m into communities across the whole County and it is all due to the foresight in establishing this Fund 2 years ago. The Members made a wise decision to vote in favour of this Fund. It has been endorsed by all eight Members of Killarney Municipal District. Every application that was valid received money which is a testament of the Local Authority. This Fund breathes new life and energy into volunteerism.

Cllr. J. Sheahan thanked Ms. A. McAllen and the staff for preparing this report. Cllr. Sheahan also wished to thank all the volunteers who give so much of their time and effort. Many volunteers work with young people teaching various sports. Clubs also deserve great credit for the unselfish hours they commit to tutoring children.

Ms. M. Healy-Rae commended Ms. N. O'Sullivan and staff on the preparation of the document. Cllr. Healy-Rae stated that the funding had been spread out well to every village and town. This Fund shows that we are supporting these groups and their work. The groups that did not receive funding will be disappointed. Cllr. Healy-Rae welcomed the decision to open requests for funding in November 2016.

Cllr. B. O'Connell wished to thank everyone involved in the preparation of the report. It is a very valuable resource. Every group that was eligible received funding. Cllr. O'Connell thanked all the Councillors that voted in favour of the establishment of the Community Support Fund.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. B. Cronin, SECONDED by Cllr. N. Kelleher it was agreed to approve the allocations from the 2016 Community Support Fund for the Municipal District of Killarney as outlined in the report circulated.

