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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILLARNEY HELD IN KILLARNEY HOUSE, KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK ON FRIDAY, 25 JUNE 2021

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AN CHÉAD CRUINIÚ BLIANTIÚIL DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHILL ÁIRNE THIONÓLADH I dTEACH CHILL ÁIRNE I BPÁIRC NÁISIÚNTA CHILL ÁIRNE AR AN AOINE, 25 MEITHEAMH 2021

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

Cllr. B. Cronin

Cllr. M. Moloney

Cllr. D. Grady

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae

Cllr. N. Kelleher

Cllr. N. O'Callaghan

Cllr. J. O'Donoghue

In attendance/i láthair

Ms. A. McAllen

Mr. C. O'Connor

Mr. O. O'Shea

Ms. M. Galvin

MD Manager

Meetings Administrator

Press & Communications Officer

A/ASO Corporate Affairs

The meeting commenced at 2.10pm.

Cathaoirleach B. Cronin took the Chair.

At the outset, Mr. C. O'Connor, Meetings Administrator briefed the Members on the protocols to be followed for the meeting during Covid-19.

Cathaoirleach Cronin thanked the Members for their support during the past 12 months. He noted it had been a very unusual and difficult year as only 3 physical Municipal District meetings had been held but noted that much work had been dealt with during this time. He looked forward to the resumption of physical meetings. The Cathaoirleach wished to pay tribute to Ms. A. McAllen and staff for dealing with the business of operating the Municipal District. He also paid wished to acknowledge the work of staff in the Town Hall and in particular. Ms. E. O'Donoghue and Ms. E. O'Connor. He thanked them for their assistance over the past 12 months. He wished to acknowledge the outdoor staff for their tremendous work on keeping the town clean and tidy. In particular, he referred to the dedication of Mr. N. O'Leary, Town Foreman, Mr. J. Ahern, SEE and Mr. S. Sheehan, EE. Cathaoirleach Cronin referred to numerous projects and works which were completed in the Killarney urban area during the past 12 months.

Cathaoirleach Cronin welcomed Cllr. J. O'Donoghue to the meeting. He noted that his uncle, former Councillor, Michael Gleeson had campaigned for a long time for the Flesk Cycleway which had now been completed.

Cathaoirleach Cronin wished to acknowledge the huge volume of work undertaken by Killarney Tidy Towns and their involvement in many projects.

Cathaoirleach Cronin said it was an honour and privilege to sit in the Chair and he thanked the Members who had given him the opportunity. He said it was an important role for leadership and to promote the whole town. He noted there were daily issues but Killarney was one of the best places in this country. The Cathaoirleach concluded by saying that Killarney was a magnificent town to be part of and a magnificent Municipal District to be Mayor of.

21.06.25.01 Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. B. Cronin Proposed that Cllr. M. Moloney be elected as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. N. Kelleher Seconded the Proposal.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae Proposed that Cllr. D. Grady be elected as Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. N. O'Callaghan Seconded the Proposal.

Mr. C. O'Connor, Meetings Administrator referred to Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2001 and noted that as two people had been nominated for position of Cathaoirleach, a vote would be taken.

A vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For Cllr. Moloney: Cllrs. Cronin, Kelleher, Moloney, O'Donoghue (4)

For Cllr. Grady: Cllrs. Grady, Healy-Rae, O'Callaghan (3)

Not Voting: None (0)

Mr. C. O'Connor, Meetings Administrator, deemed Cllr. M. Moloney to be elected Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Killarney.

Cathaoirleach. M. Moloney took the Chair and addressed the Members as follows:

Fellow Councillors, Manager, Officials, members of the Press, it is a real privilege and an honour to become the Cathaoirleach of the Killarney Municipal District and in

such a splendid settling here in Killarney House, and I thank my colleagues for their support today.

I also want to take this opportunity to welcome our new Councillor, John O'Donoghue to his first in person Municipal District meeting and to wish him all the very best in the coming years and look forward to working with him. John is following in the footsteps of a great representative, former Councillor, Michael Gleeson and I wish Michael and his wife (name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request) a long, happy and healthy retirement.

I would like to pay tribute to the outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Brendan Cronin, who has been a fine Chairperson and Mayor of Killarney over the past year. Brendan brought his experience, his efficiency and his passion to the role. I think Brendan drew the short straw as it was unfortunate that Brendan was Cathaoirleach during a time when the normal activities and events should be happening, but a lot was cancelled due to the pandemic, however he didn't let this daunt him. He showed leadership and dedication in supporting the efforts to limit the spread of the coronavirus in our Municipal District all year and to promote the product that is Killarney and I congratulate him on a successful year in the Chair.

This is one of the biggest honours of my life and to become the first woman to be Cathaoirleach of the Killarney Municipal District since it came into being in 2014 is the cherry on the cake. I look forward to being a Cathaoirleach for all of the Municipal District, urban and rural.

At the heart of the Municipal District, of course, is the wonderful town of Killarney and like any town in Ireland at the moment, it faces challenges in recovering from the enormous impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Businesses have been closed, communities have been impacted, people have lost their jobs and worst of all, we have lost so many people to this dreadful disease, so it is inevitable that it will take time to recover. Thankfully, now, there is some light on the horizon and with the rollout of the vaccine programme, we can look forward to better times ahead.

During the coming year, I hope to work with my colleagues on the many issues of concern to the residents of Killarney Municipal District, including infrastructure, access, parking, recreation, business, and the wider economic and community development that we are all so committed to.

I know that sometimes at our meetings, discussions can get heated and are sometimes protracted but that is because everyone here is so passionate about the Killarney Municipal District and the people we represent.

I look forward to working with the Municipal District team in the year ahead, our MD Manager, Angela McAllen, our MD Engineer, John Ahern, our MD Officer, Eileen O'Donoghue and all of the staff based at the Town Hall and across the Municipal District. There is an exceptionally talented and dedicated team who all have a common goal of improving the quality of life of everyone in our Municipal District and I look forward to supporting you all in your work.

I promise to work with colleagues in a fair and collaborative way in the coming year and I hope that we will all have a productive year ahead, I will do my best to be a good ambassador for Killarney, a good Cathaoirleach to the District and represent the its people to the best of my ability.

Finally, I want to thank my family for their continued support and encouragement. My wonderful husband, (name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request) who has always been my rock, my son, (name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request) and my daughter, (name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request) and their families and all my extended family.

Thank you.”

Cllr. N. Kelleher congratulated Cathaoirleach M. Moloney and noted it was a huge honour to be Cathaoirleach in the town where she was born. He said he looked forward to working with the Cathaoirleach in the coming year. Cllr. Kelleher also paid tribute to Cllr. B. Cronin. He noted Cllr. Cronin had dealt with meetings very effectively and was supportive of Killarney and represented the town well.

Cllr. N. O’Callaghan congratulated Cllr. B. Cronin on the last 12 months. He said Cllr. Cronin handled his business in an outstanding way. He said that Cllr. Cronin proved why the position should be held in esteem and congratulated him and his family. Cllr. O’Callaghan congratulated Cathaoirleach M. Moloney and said he knew she would deal with the business of the Municipal District very well. He noted the position of Mayor in Killarney was an honour and said he would always give the holder of the Chair his respect.

Cllr. M. Healy-Rae congratulated Cathaoirleach Moloney on her election as Cathaoirleach and noted she was more than capable to fill the position as she previously held the position of Councillor and Senator and has gained vast experience. She said she supported the Cathaoirleach as an individual and wished her best for the year ahead but said she could not support the pact today.

Cllr. D. Grady congratulated Cathaoirleach Moloney and noted that the Cathaoirleach had vast experience as a Councillor and a Senator. He said he would support the Cathaoirleach in the coming year. Cllr. Grady referred to Cllr. B. Cronin’s term as Cathaoirleach and noted that whilst they did not always see eye to eye, he was a fair Cathaoirleach and he recognised that each person had their own beliefs. He wished Cllr. Cronin and his family well for the future.

Cllr. J. O’Donoghue thanked and congratulated Cllr. B. Cronin on his term as Cathaoirleach. He said he was conscious of the great work carried out in Killarney and he was also aware of the capabilities of everyone in the room. He wished the Cathaoirleach a successful year ahead.

Cllr. B. Cronin congratulated Cathaoirleach Moloney and noted it was a great day for her husband, (name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request) and their family. He said that the position of Cathaoirleach was a great honour and privilege and he was confident that Cathaoirleach Moloney would do a great job and wished her every success for the year ahead.

Ms. A. McAllen thanked outgoing Cathaoirleach, Cllr. B. Cronin on behalf of the Municipal District Office and people on the ground who have worked so hard and are visible on the streets. She noted that many projects had been completed in Killarney during the past year. Ms. McAllen referred to the virtual meetings and paid tribute to the Members for their flexibility and adaptability. Ms. McAllen looked forward to working with Cathaoirleach Moloney and noted that recovery would be challenging but looked forward to working together to face down that challenge.

21.06.25.02 Election of Leas-Chathaoirleach

Cllr. M. Moloney PROPOSED that Cllr. N. Kelleher be elected Leas-Chathaoirleach.

This Proposal was SECONDED by Cllr. B. Cronin.

Cllr. N. O'Callaghan PROPOSED that Cllr. M. Healy-Rae be elected Leas-Chathaoirleach.

This Proposal was SECONDED by Cllr. D. Grady.

Mr. C. O'Connor referred to Section 37 of the Local Government Act 2001 and noted that as two people had been nominated for position of Leas-Chathaoirleach, a vote would be taken.

A vote was taken which resulted as follows:

For Cllr. Kelleher: Cllrs. Cronin, Kelleher, Moloney, O'Donoghue (4)

For Cllr. Healy-Rae: Cllrs. Grady, Healy-Rae, O'Callaghan (3)

Not Voting: None (0)

Mr. C. O'Connor, Meetings Administrator, deemed Cllr. N. Kelleher to be elected Leas-Chathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Killarney.

Cllr. D. Grady thanked his Proposer and Secunder and wished Cathaoirleach M. Moloney the best for the coming year.

Mr. C. O'Connor wished Cllr. B. Cronin well for the coming year and said he looked forward to working with the newly elected Cathaoirleach M. Moloney.

The Meeting concluded at 2.55pm.

Cathaoirleach of Killarney MD

Mr. C. O'Connor
Meetings Administrator