

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of Annual Meeting of Wexford County Council Held Monday 26th June 2023
in the Council Chamber at 2.30pm (with some remote attendance)**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. George Lawlor, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors:

BARDEN	PAT	DONOHUE	ANTHONY (Remote)	MURPHY	BARBARA ANNE
BELL	MAURA	FARRELL	MARY	MURPHY	BRIDIN
BOLGER	ANDREW	FLEMING	JOHN	O'ROURKE	JOHN
BREEN	PIP	HEGARTY	JOHN	OWENS	JACKSER
BROWNE	AIDAN	HYNES	DAVID	SHEEHAN	MICHAEL
BYRNE	CATHAL	KAVANAGH	WILLIE	STAPLES	FRANK
CARTHY	GER	KELLY	LEONARD	SULLIVAN	JOE
CODD	JIM	KENNY	DONAL	WALSH	OLIVER
CODD-NOLAN	KATHLEEN	LAFFAN	GARY	WHELAN	MICHAEL
CONNICK	ANTHONY	MCDONALD	LISA		
DEVEREUX	DIARMUID	MOORE	JIM		

Officials:

Mr. T. Enright, Chief Executive
 Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services
 Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance
 Ms. C. Godkin, Director of Services
 Ms. L. Hore, Director of Services
 Ms. A. Byrne, A/Director of Services
 Mr. S. Casey, A/Director of Services
 Mr. M. Drea, County Secretary

Opening Remarks – An Cathaoirleach

Outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr. G. Lawlor opened the 126th Annual Meeting of Wexford County Council and welcomed the attendance. Cllr. Lawlor welcomed Minister James Browne, Senator Malcolm Byrne, former Minister John Browne and Superintendent James

Doyle. Cllr. Lawlor also welcomed Cllr. J. Fleming's sons Jack and Michael, his extended family, his fiancé Judy Mellon and Cllr. Fleming's loyal supporters.

Cllr. Lawlor remarked on the many events that took place during the year and said he felt proud and privileged to have had the opportunity to represent his county. Cllr. Lawlor acknowledged many important events and projects progressed, such as:

- CPO of land for SETU campus,
- Securing Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann,
- Turning the sod on the Women's Refuge,
- Welcoming the Rose tour,
- Strengthening of Georgia Southern University relationship and signing of contract for works on the adoration convent,
- Enniscorthy Technology Park,
- Esmonde St. development,
- New fire station in New Ross,
- High Hill Norman Park,
- Emigrant Park, New Ross,
- New boxing Club in Ferndale,
- Wexford Rape Crisis Centre,
- Trinity Wharf

Cllr. G. Lawlor thanked Mr. T. Enright and all the staff for their support, and he acknowledged the contribution of Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. M. Whelan. Cllr. Lawlor congratulated his party colleague Cllr. M. Bell on her year as mayor and thanked his fellow Councillors, and his family for their support.

All Members joined in congratulating the outgoing Cathaoirleach for his very busy year and spoke of his outstanding performance during his term of office in representing Wexford County Council and County Wexford with pride, professionalism, and commitment.

Chief Executive Tom Enright joined the Elected Members in congratulating the outgoing Cathaoirleach on his professional and exceptional performance during his year in office. Mr. Enright praised Cllr. Lawlor for representing the Council nationally and internationally with distinction.

1. Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. J. Fleming was proposed by Cllr. M. Whelan and seconded by Cllr. P. Breen for the position of Cathaoirleach

Cllr. B. Murphy was proposed by Cllr. K. Codd Nolan and seconded by Cllr. F. Staples for the position of Cathaoirleach.

There followed a roll-call vote, and the result of that vote was as follows.

(Note: No. "1" indicates a vote in favour of the candidate whose name appears at the top of the relevant column, while "AS" indicates the Councillor was not in attendance at the time of the vote.)

COUNCILLOR			CANDIDATE	
			J. FLEMING	B. MURPHY
1	BARDEN	PAT	1	
2	BELL	MAURA		1
3	BOLGER	ANDREW	1	
4	BREEN	PIP	1	
5	BROWNE	AIDAN	1	
6	BYRNE	CATHAL		1
7	CARTHY	GER	1	
8	CODD	JIM	1	
9	CODD-NOLAN	KATHLEEN		1
10	CONNICK	ANTHONY	1	
11	DEVEREUX	DIARMUID		1
12	DONOHUE	ANTHONY		1
13	FARRELL	MARY	1	
14	FLEMING	JOHN	1	
15	FORDE	TOM	AS	AS
16	HEGARTY	JOHN		1
17	HYNES	DAVID	1	
18	KAVANAGH	WILLIE	1	
19	KELLY	LEONARD	1	
20	KENNY	DONAL	1	
21	LAFFAN	GARY	1	
22	LAWLOR	GEORGE	1	
23	MCDONALD	LISA	1	
24	MOORE	JIM		1
25	MURPHY	BARBARA ANNE	1	
26	MURPHY	BRIDÍN		1
27	O'ROURKE	JOHN	1	
28	Ó'SÚILLEABHÁIN	FIONNTÁN	AS	AS
29	OWENS	JACKSER	1	
30	SHEEHAN	MICHAEL	1	
31	STAPLES	FRANK		1
32	SULLIVAN	JOE	1	
33	WALSH	OLIVER		1
34	WHELAN	MICHAEL	1	
Totals			22	10

On a vote of 22 in favour of Cllr. J. Fleming and 10 votes in favour of Cllr. B. Murphy, Cllr. G. Lawlor declared Cllr. J. Fleming to be elected Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council for the 2023-2024 term.

Cllr. J. Fleming was presented by Cllr. G. Lawlor with the Chain of Office, following which Cllr. J. Fleming assumed the Chair.

Cathaoirleach J. Fleming acknowledged the presence of Minister James Browne, Senator Malcolm Byrne, former Minister John Browne and Superintendent James Doyle. Cllr. Fleming thanked his proposer and seconder, commiserated with Cllr. B. Murphy and congratulated Cllr. G. Lawlor on his exemplary performance during his term of office.

Cllr. Fleming promised to represent the people of Wexford with passion and pride, as he did in his sporting days. Cllr. Fleming acknowledged the great work done over recent years with all areas of the County benefitting. He highlighted a number of issues that he believes will be a matter of utmost importance in the year ahead, including:

- Housing supply increased
- Vacant homes and dereliction to be tackled
- Delivery of serviced sites in towns and villages
- Construction of an advance factory in New Ross
- Awareness of climate change and use of best practices
- Secure tier 1 status for Rosslare Europort

Cllr. Fleming acknowledged his family who were present especially his sister Anne who is home from Australia, his sons Michael and Jack, and his fiancé Judy. He noted how proud his deceased parents Kitty and Paddy would be. Cllr. Fleming thanked his canvassers present, Mike, Seamus, Johnny, and Martin.

The Members and Chief Executive joined in congratulating Cllr. Fleming on his election to the office of Cathaoirleach and wished him every success in the year ahead.

2. Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach called for nominations for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council.

Cllr. G. Carthy was proposed by Cllr. L. McDonald and seconded by Cllr. J. Codd for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach

Cllr. K. Codd Nolan was proposed by Cllr. B. Murphy and seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty for the position of Leas-Cathaoirleach.

There followed a roll-call vote, and the result of that vote was as follows:

(Note: No. "1" indicates a vote in favour of the candidate whose name appears at the top of the respective column, while "AS" indicates the Councillor was not in attendance at the time of the vote.)

COUNCILLOR			CANDIDATE	
			G. CARTHY	K. CODD NOLAN
1	BARDEN	PAT	1	
2	BELL	MAURA		1
3	BOLGER	ANDREW	1	
4	BREEN	PIP	1	
5	BROWNE	AIDAN	1	
6	BYRNE	CATHAL		1
7	CARTHY	GER	1	
8	CODD	JIM	1	
9	CODD-NOLAN	KATHLEEN		1
10	CONNICK	ANTHONY	1	
11	DEVEREUX	DIARMUID		1
12	DONOHOE	ANTHONY		1
13	FARRELL	MARY	1	
14	FLEMING	JOHN	1	
15	FORDE	TOM	AS	AS
16	HEGARTY	JOHN		1
17	HYNES	DAVID	1	
18	KAVANAGH	WILLIE	1	
19	KELLY	LEONARD	1	
20	KENNY	DONAL	1	
21	LAFFAN	GARY	1	
22	LAWLOR	GEORGE	1	
23	MCDONALD	LISA	1	
24	MOORE	JIM		1
25	MURPHY	BARBARA ANNE	1	
26	MURPHY	BRIDÍN		1
27	O'ROURKE	JOHN	1	
28	Ó'SÚILLEABHÁIN	FIONNTÁN	AS	AS
29	OWENS	JACKSER	1	
30	SHEEHAN	MICHAEL	1	
31	STAPLES	FRANK		1
32	SULLIVAN	JOE	1	
33	WALSH	OLIVER		1
34	WHELAN	MICHAEL	1	
Totals			22	10

On a vote of 22 in favour of Cllr. G. Carthy and 10 votes in favour of Cllr. K. Codd Nolan, the Cathaoirleach declared Cllr. G. Carthy to be elected Leas-Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council for the 2023-2024 term.

Cllr. G. Carthy was presented with the Leas-Cathaoirleach Chain of Office by Cllr. M. Whelan.

Cllr. G. Carthy thanked his proposer and seconder, commiserated with Cllr. K. Codd Nolan and offered his full support to the Cathaoirleach throughout his term of office.

The Members and Chief Executive joined in congratulating Cllr. Carthy on his election to the office of Leas-Cathaoirleach and wished him every success in the year ahead.

3. Schedule of Meetings

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. A. Connick and agreed by all, the Council adopted the schedule of meetings, as circulated.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Daingithe ar an lá de Iúil, 2023.

Cllr. John Fleming
Cathaoirleach

Michael Drea,
County Secretary