

Minutes of Special Meeting of Leitrim County Council held in the Council Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon on Wednesday 22nd July 2009 at 3pm.

Members Present:

Bohan, Mary	McCartin, John
Colreavy, Michael	McDermott, Sean
Dolan, Frank	McGloin, Enda
Ellis, Caillian	McGowan, Sean
Ferguson, Tony	McTernan, John
Gilmartin, Francis	O'Rourke, Paddy
Guckian, Sinead	Reynolds, Gerard
Hughes, Gordon	Stenson, Enda
Kilrane, Gerry	Ward, John

And Councillor Thomas Mulligan, Cathaoirleach presiding

Apologies:

Dolan, Gerry
Kenny, Martin
McGloin, Siobhán

Officials Present:

Ms. J. Maguire, County Manager
Ms. A. McGovern, Meetings Administrator

At the outset of the meeting the Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mulligan, welcomed the members to the meeting and thanked them for their co-operation in relation to the rescheduling of the meeting from 5pm to 3pm.

Councillor Ferguson outlined that the Fianna Fáil members had not been consulted in relation to the rescheduling of the meeting. He outlined that the practice in the past would have been that the Party Whips would have been consulted in relation to such matters and he expressed the hope that such co-operation and consultation would continue into the future.

Councillor Bohan outlined that the date of the meeting hadn't suited a number of members in the first instance and queried why the time of the meeting had subsequently been changed.

The Cathaoirleach advised that he had requested a change in the time of the meeting due to a commitment later on in the evening. He acknowledged and accepted the comments in relation to consultation with the Party Whips on such matters.

**09/403
22/7/09**

Filling of Casual Vacancies - Election of V.E.C. Representatives by Leitrim County Council in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mulligan outlined that this Special Meeting of the Council had been convened for the purposes of filling the two Casual Vacancies arising on the Community Representatives to the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee.

Report dated 15th July 2009 from Aideen McGovern, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Corporate Services, as circulated to the Members appears as **Appendix 1** to the Minutes of this Meeting in the Minute Book.

Ms. McGovern outlined that the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act, 2001 and Regulations made thereunder, provide for the appointment by Leitrim County Council of four VEC members, two male and two female, after consultation with the persons elected to the VEC by Leitrim County Council, Parents and VEC Staff, and for the filling of Casual Vacancies arising. She advised that one male and one female casual vacancy has now arisen and, following the invitation for nominations from bodies representative of the relevant interests to be considered for these interim appointments, one male and two female nominations have been received.

Councillor Mulligan advised that the Consultation Meeting with the Leitrim County Council Members of the VEC, the parents representatives and the staff representatives on the VEC with regard to the appointment of these two VEC members by Leitrim County Council, as required by the legislation, had taken place. He advised that all three nominees had been considered eligible for appointment as Community Representatives onto the VEC.

It was noted that as there is only one male nominee for the male casual vacancy arising this nominee is automatically appointed.

Proposed by Councillor Gordon Hughes seconded by Councillor John McCartin AND RESOLVED;

“That Mr. Damian Brennan, Drumlegga, Cloone, Co. Leitrim be appointed to fill the male casual vacancy arising on the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001.”

Councillor Bohan outlined that she had served with Damian as an elected representative on the VEC for 30 years and he had made an enormous contribution. She welcomed him as a new community representative onto the VEC and wished him well in this role.

It was noted that there were two female nominees for the single female vacancy arising.

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane:

“That Siobhan Finnegan McElgunn, Hartley, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim be appointed to fill the female casual vacancy arising on the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001.”

Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin, seconded by Councillor John Ward:

“That Ita Flynn, Fairglass North, Mohill, Co. Leitrim be appointed to fill the female casual vacancy arising on the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001.”

Ms Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator outlined that as there were two proposals for the single vacancy arising a vote would have to be taken. The result of the poll taken was as follows;

Proposed by Councillor Enda McGloin, Seconded by Councillor John Ward			
That Ita Flynn, Fairglass North, Mohill, Co. Leitrim Co. Leitrim be appointed to fill the female casual vacancy arising on the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001."			
FOR	AGAINST	Abstain	Absent
Frank Dolan	Mary Bohan		Michael Colreavy
Gordon Hughes	Caillian Ellis		Martin Kenny
John McCartin	Tony Ferguson		Gerry Dolan
Sean McDermott	Francis Gilmartin		Siobhán McGloin
Enda McGloin	Sinead Guckian		
John McTernan	Gerry Kilrane		
Thomas Mulligan	Sean McGowan		
Gerard Reynolds	Paddy O'Rourke		
Enda Stenson			
John Ward			
10	8		4

Proposed by Councillor Sean McGowan, Seconded by Councillor Gerry Kilrane			
That Siobhan Finnegan McElgunn, Hartley, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim Co. Leitrim be appointed to fill the female casual vacancy arising on the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001."			
FOR	AGAINST	Abstain	Absent
Mary Bohan	Frank Dolan	Enda Stenson	Michael Colreavy
Caillian Ellis	Gordon Hughes		Martin Kenny
Tony Ferguson	John McCartin		Gerry Dolan
Francis Gilmartin	Sean McDermott		Siobhán McGloin
Sinead Guckian	Enda McGloin		
Gerry Kilrane	John McTernan		
Sean McGowan	Thomas Mulligan		
Paddy O'Rourke	Gerard Reynolds		
John Ward			
9	8	1	4

As Ita Flynn obtained 10 votes, which was the majority of the members present and voting, she was deemed to be appointed to fill the female casual vacancy arising on the County Leitrim Vocational Education Committee in accordance with Section 7(e) of the Vocational Education (Amendment) Act 2001.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Mulligan, wished Ms. Flynn every success in her appointment. He commiserated with Ms. Finnegan McElgunn and outlined that she has contributed greatly to her community and that he hoped that she would continue in that capacity and he wished her well for the future. This was supported by all the Members.

Councillor Ferguson wished Ms. Flynn well in her role on the County Leitrim VEC.

Councillor Colreavy apologised for arriving late to the meeting. He stated that for future VEC Elections it should be the community organisations that appoint the community representatives rather than the Elected Members of Leitrim County Council. This was supported by Councillor Stenson who stated that these appointments should not be a political issue.

Ms. Aideen McGovern, Meetings Administrator outlined that the provisions in relation to the appointment of members of the VEC are set out in the VEC Legislation and the Council is bound to adhere to these requirements. Councillor Colreavy stated that the legislation should be changed in this regard.

This concluded the Business of the meeting.

SIGNED: Thomas Mulligan
Cathaoirleach

SIGNED: Aideen McGovern **DATE:** **7th September 2009**
Meetings Administrator