

**COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 29th JUNE 2023 HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, THE MALL, WATERFORD**

Present

Cllr. John O’Leary (Mayor)	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Donal Barry	Cllr. Seamus O’Donnell
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Joanne Bailey	Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan
Cllr. Declan Clune	Cllr. Thomas Phelan
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. Seamus Ryan	Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. Pat Nugent	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. David Daniels	Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Cllr. Frank Quinlan
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Cllr. Stephanie Keating
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Mairead Tobin
Cllr. John Hearne	Cllr Adam Wyse
Cllr. Ger Barron	Cllr. Cristiona Kiely

Apologies: Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness, Cllr. Tom Cronin

Officials in Attendance

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive
 Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services, Corporate Services, Planning, Culture, HR & IS
 Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services
 Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Services, Economic Development
 Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Service, Roads Water & Environment
 Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator
 Ms. A. Flynn, Corporate

The Mayor opened the meeting by welcoming all present. In his address which followed he thanked his fellow councillors and party colleagues for their support and encouragement, he particularly remembered the late Cllr. James Tobin and Cllr. Davy Daniels who are missed in the chamber.

He noted that it was a privilege to welcome Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Minister Eamon Ryan to Waterford to break ground on the North Quays Public Infrastructure Project, following a €170 million vote of confidence in Waterford by the government. The official opening of the newly restored and redeveloped Mount Congreve was a proud day and mentioned other memorable occasions that he was proud to be part of including the opening of the Waterford Gallery of Art, the opening of the Bilberry to City Centre Greenway, the opening of Waterford’s newest museum, the Irish Wake Museum, the investment of €5m of RRDF funding for Cappoquin and the recent announcement by Darragh O’Brien of 277 social and affordable homes. He also mentioned the twinning of Markischer Kreis district in Germany with Waterford, the celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the raising of the Tricolour by Thomas Francis Meagher which captured the imagination of many with the attendance of a total of 9 Ambassadors attending the celebrations in City Hall. He also mentioned the Mayor’s Ball which raised €48,000 for charity and acknowledged the work of former councillor Cha O’Neill in organising the successful event.

He thanked the people of Waterford City and County and the many community and voluntary groups, sports and social clubs, schools and business representatives he had the privilege to meet, for their commitment and loyalty to the City and County. He acknowledged the work of the Mayor’s Secretary, Mairead Whelan, and all the staff of the corporate and communications offices for their support. He thanked his wife Eileen for her understanding and patience and his children Edwina and Brian, his daughter in law Laura and grandchildren Cathal, Chloe and Phoebe. He said it was a privilege to serve as Mayor of Waterford City and County and he thanked the members for the honour bestowed on him.

The members congratulated the outgoing Mayor and his family and in particular his wife Eileen. They spoke of the huge workload he had undertaken and how he had treated all the members fairly and with respect during the year. The members also emphasized his accessibility, his energy and his good humour in attending events and representing Waterford as its First Citizen.

M. Walsh, CEO also spoke to congratulate the outgoing Mayor, his wife Eileen and family.

1. Toghchán an Mhéara – Election of Mayor

The Mayor called for nominations for the position of Mayor of Waterford City and County for 2023/2024.

It was proposed by Cllr. Kelly and seconded by Cllr. O’Sullivan that Cllr. Conway be elected Mayor of Waterford City and County.

It was proposed by Cllr. Griffin and seconded by Cllr. Bailey that Cllr. Fitzgerald be elected Mayor of Waterford City and County.

There were no further nominations, the Mayor called for a roll call vote.

Name:	Cllr. Conway	Cllr. Fitzgerald	Abstain	Absent
Joeanne Bailey (SF)		√		
Ger Barron (Lab)	√			
Donal Barry (Ind)		√		
Liam Brazil (FG)	√			
Declan Clune (Ind)	√			
Joe Conway (Ind)	√			
Tom Cronin (FF)				√
Conor D. McGuinness (SF)				√
David Daniels (Ind)	√			
Declan Doocey (FG)	√			
Pat Fitzgerald (SF)		√		
Damien Geoghegan (FG)	√			
Jim Griffin (SF)		√		
John Hearne (SF)		√		
Joe Kelly (Ind)	√			
Cristiona Kiely (GP)	√			
Stephanie Keating (FF)	√			
Jason Murphy (FF)	√			
Pat Nugent (FG)	√			

Seamus O'Donnell (Ind)	√			
John O'Leary (FF)	√			
Lola O'Sullivan (FG)	√			
Thomas Phelan (Lab)	√			
Jody Power (GP)	√			
Seanie Power (FG)	√			
John Pratt (Lab)	√			
Eamon Quinlan (FF)	√			
Frank Quinlan (FG)	√			
Seamus Ryan (Lab)	√			
Mary Roche (SD)	√			
Mairead Tobin (FF)	√			
Adam Gary Wyse (FF)	√			
TOTAL	25	5		

Cllr. Conway received majority of votes and was deemed elected to the position of Mayor of Waterford City and County.

Cllr. Conway took the Mayors seat and addressed the meeting. He said he was privileged and honoured to be elected Mayor. He thanked his proposer Cllr. Kelly and his seconder Cllr. O'Sullivan and acknowledged Cllr. O'Leary for his hard work during the last year. He thanked his Council colleagues for their support also thanking Cllr. Fitzgerald. He thanked the Corporate Office, members of the Press, Oireachtas members, the Senators and former colleagues present. He paid tribute and remembered the late Cllrs. James Tobin, Davy Daniels, Billy Kyne, John Carey, Dan Cowman & Ben Gavin. He thanked his wife Sandra and his children Donncha, Ailbhe and Niamh for their support and forbearance. He noted there are some extraordinary projects in Waterford and asked that we continue with the work of progressing them as far and as quickly as possible in this the last year of the current Council and thanked M. Walsh, CE and the Senior Management Team. He hopes at the end of his term he will be able to look back on a fruitful year of endorsing the commercial, professional and community life of Waterford, promoting our image and products, forging strong relations with neighbouring local authorities and twin cities, co-operating with Government in consolidating the Gaeltacht service town status of Dungarvan and enhancing the environment by developing our Local Authority Climate Action Plan.

Cllr. Fitzgerald thanked the Mayor for his kind words and wished the Mayor the best and was sure he would be excellent and fair in his term.

A number of the members extended their congratulations and wished the Mayor and his family every success in the year ahead.

2. Toghchán an Leas Mhéara – Election of Deputy Mayor

The Mayor called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor of Waterford City and County Council.

It was proposed by Cllr. Nugent and seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan that Cllr. Doocey be elected Deputy Mayor of Waterford City and County.

It was proposed by Cllr. Hearne and seconded by Cllr. Kiely that Cllr. Bailey be elected Deputy Mayor of Waterford City and County.

There were no further nominations and the Mayor called for a roll call vote.

Name:	Cllr. Doocey	Cllr. Bailey	Abstain	Absent
Joeanne Bailey (SF)		√		
Ger Barron (Lab)	√			
Donal Barry (Ind)		√		
Liam Brazil (FG)	√			
Declan Clune (Ind)	√			
Joe Conway (Ind)	√			
Tom Cronin (FF)				√
Conor D. McGuinness (SF)				√
David Daniels (Ind)		√		
Declan Doocey (FG)	√			
Pat Fitzgerald (SF)		√		
Damien Geoghegan (FG)	√			
Jim Griffin (SF)		√		
John Hearne (SF)		√		
Joe Kelly (Ind)	√			
Cristiona Kiely (GP)		√		
Stephanie Keating (FF)	√			
Jason Murphy (FF)	√			
Pat Nugent (FG)	√			
Seamus O'Donnell (Ind)	√			
John O'Leary (FF)	√			
Lola O'Sullivan (FG)	√			
Thomas Phelan (Lab)	√			
Jody Power (GP)		√		
Seanie Power (FG)	√			
John Pratt (Lab)	√			
Eamon Quinlan (FF)	√			
Frank Quinlan (FG)	√			
Seamus Ryan (Lab)	√			
Mary Roche (SD)		√		
Mairead Tobin (FF)				√
Adam Gary Wyse (FF)	√			
TOTAL	20	9		

Cllr. Doocey received majority of votes and was deemed elected to the post of Deputy Mayor of Waterford City and County.

Cllr. Doocey thanked his proposer and his seconder and thanked his Council colleagues for their support. He said it was an honour for him, and his family, to be elected Deputy Mayor and said he looked forward to working with the Mayor and to representing the people of Waterford.

The Mayor brought the meeting to a close and invited all present for refreshments in the Large Room.

3. A.O.B.

None

This closed the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____