

Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly
Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre

MINUTES MEETING

**OF THE EASTERN AND MIDLAND
REGIONAL ASSEMBLY**

HELD ON

Friday, 09th February 2018

IN

**COUNCIL CHAMBER,
CITY HALL,
DUBLIN 2**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTERN AND MIDLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON 9th February 2018, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, DUBLIN 2.

Cllr. Paddy Bourke	Cllr. Pat Hand
Cllr. Christy Burke	Cllr. David Healy
Cllr. Mick Cahill	Cllr. Paddy Hill
Cllr. Ciaran Cuffe	Cllr. Dermot Lacey
Cllr. Thomas Cullen	Cllr. Lettie McCarthy
Cllr. Kieran Dennison	Cllr. Brian McDonagh
Cllr. Eamon Dooley	Cllr. Pdraig McEvoy
Cllr. Kate Feeney	Cllr. Derek Mitchell
Cllr. Catherine Fitzgerald	Cllr. PJ Reilly
Cllr. Eddie Fitzpatrick	Cllr. Tommy Reilly
Cllr. Mary Freehill	Cllr. Pat Vance

In Attendance:

Ms. Joan Martin, Designated Chief Executive, Louth County Council

Mr. Jim Conway, EMRA

Mr. Malachy Bradley, EMRA

Ms. Labhaoise McKenna, EMRA

Ms. Hazel Healy, EMRA

Ms. Bernadette Lancaster, EMRA

Mr. Ross Higgins, EMRA

Apologies received from: Cllr. Mary Hanafin, Cllr. Pamela Kearns, Cllr. Paddy Bracken, Cllr. Gaye Fagan, Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald, Cllr. Ivan Keatley, Cllr. Martin Miley, Cllr. Francis Duffy, and Cllr. Maria Murphy.

An Cathaoirleach led members in a minutes silence on the passing of Cllr. Pat Hands mother, Annie.

ITEM 1

Adoption of Minutes of meeting held 12th January

Cllr. Ciaran Cuffe asked that the minutes be amended to reflect that it was agreed that when a planning submission is made with regard to a specific area, a map will accompany the submissions to give the councillors a better understanding of the area in questions. The Director undertook to amend as indicated.

Minutes of the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly held on the 12th January 2018 as amended were proposed by Cllr. K Dennison and seconded by Cllr. P Vance.

The minutes were **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

ITEM 2

Planning

Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Athy Town Development Plan 2012 – 2018

Mr. Malachy Bradley gave details of the observations on Proposed Variation No. 2 to the Athy Town Development Plan 2012 – 2018 for the members' consideration, proposed by Cllr. D Lacey and seconded by Cllr. L McCarthy.

The submission was **APPROVED**.

ITEM 3

Programme of Works – 2018

The Director gave the members an update on the work the Assembly was to undertake in 2018.

A discussion followed with contributions from Cllr. P McEvoy and Cllr. D Healy.

ITEM 4

Members T&S

The Director noted a new circular with regard to the members T&S claims and advised that the Assembly would be working with Local Authorities and the other Regional Assemblies to ensure that the members have the correct supports in place.

ITEM 5

Correspondence

The Director noted the response from the Department to the members acknowledging receipt of their request to a meeting in relation to the NPF and the RSES.

ITEM 6

Any other business

Cllr D Lacey had highlighted that the April meeting clashed with the AILG conference and suggested that the April Assembly meeting be moved to the 20th of April.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr. K Dennison and Cllr D Lacey.

It was proposed that the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly meeting would be moved to the 20th of April.

This was **AGREED**.

Cllr. D Lacey mentioned that some SPA meetings would clash with the LAMA conference and that these dates would need to be reviewed.

Communications

The Director requested that a working group be made up of members for communications going forward.

It was **AGREED** that a representative from each party would be nominated to the communications working group. Nominations to be emailed to the Director.

Conferences

The Director reminded members of the reporting requirements when attending conferences. A reporting template will be made available to members.

Covenant of Mayors

It was agreed that the Assembly take a role in supporting the Covenant of Mayors. Cllr Kate Feeney was nominated to represent the Assembly at the upcoming anniversary event to be held in Brussels.

Chair Local Authority meeting

Cllr. Mick Cahill proposed that 1 Assembly meeting per annum be held in the Cathaoirleach's parent Local Authority area. He requested that members would consider this proposal. It was agreed that the Director would investigate the proposal and report back at the next meeting.

Request for Submission to CoR by the Assembly

Cllr. M Freehill highlighted an issue with a lack subsidiarity in the Irish Government system at local and regional level and suggested that the Assembly make a submission to the EU Committee of the Region consultation on the subject to highlight the lack of devolution of appropriate decision making at the level closest to the citizen.

A discussion took place with contributions from Cllr. P McEvoy, Cllr. K Feeney, Cllr. D Lacey, Cllr. D Healy, and Cllr. L McCarthy.

A submission by the Assembly is to be made.

This was **AGREED**

The NPF Launch


A discussion took place in regard to the launch of the NPF with contributions from Cllr C Fitzgerald, Cllr D Healy, Chief executive Ms J Martin, Director Mr J Conway and Mr M Bradley.

ITEM 7

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday 9th March in City Hall.

Signed:


Cllr PJ Reilly
Cathaoirleach EMRA


Mr. Jim Conway
EMRA

Date: 09/03/2018

