

**Minutes of the Castlecomer Municipal District Budget Meeting held on Monday 5th
November, 2018 at 1.45p.m. in The Council Chamber, County Hall**

In the Chair: Cllr Mick McCarthy.

Present: Cllrs John Brennan, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Pat Fitzpatrick, Pat Millea and Maurice Shortall.

In attendance: Martin Prendiville, Head of Finance, Philippe Beubry, Senior Executive Engineer , Mary Mulholland, Director of Services, Michael Delahunty, Senior Executive Officer and Nancy Byrne, Municipal District Staff Officer.

Consideration of Draft Budget Plan of 2019.

Martin Prendiville circulated his report on the Draft Budget Plan for 2019. The report outlined the legislative base for the General Municipal Allocation (GMA), the time period for consideration and the process undertaken to date. The Head of Finance outlined the difficult challenges in bridging the gap between proposed income and expenditure. He informed members that all expenditure and income lines are being examined at present to see how they gap can be bridged. He advised that a nil allocation is proposed for the Castlecomer Municipal District and also for the other two Municipal Districts.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- Clarity that the GMA would revert to €50,000 when resources are available in the future.
- Clarity sought regarding available funding for historic graveyards with particular reference to Ballinamara Graveyard. Mary Mulholland advised that maintenance of historic graveyards is a big issue. She confirmed that there is no funding stream available for historic graveyards and a budget of €10,000 exists for Council graveyards countywide.
- Cllr Cavanagh requested that Kilkenny County Council would commence a programme to introduce driver feedback signs in all towns. P Beubry responded and confirmed 8 driver feedback signs have been introduced in the Municipal District and 2 more are in the process of being introduced in Freshford.

All members were vocal and expressed their disappointment at the proposal contained in the Draft Budget Plan for 2019 to reduce to Discretionary General Budget to €0. Following protracted discussions members agreed unanimously that in the absence of a palatable alternative and subject to each Municipal District agreeing to the same, that the Draft Budget Plan for 2019 for the Municipal District of Castlecomer, as circulated, be adopted".

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____