

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**Minutes of Special Meeting of Wexford County Council Held Monday 16th December 2024
in the Council Chamber at 12.00pm (with some remote attendance)****Attendance:****In the Chair:** Cllr. Pip Breen, Cathaoirleach.**Councillors:**

Boland	Nicky (Online)	Kenny	Donal	Staples	Robbie (Online)
Byrne	Cathal	Laffan	Garry	Sullivan	Joe
Carthy	Ger	McDonald	Darragh (Online)	Walsh	Catherine Biddy (Online)
Codd	Jim	McDonald	Lisa (Online)	Walsh	Oliver
Donohoe	Anthony (Online)	Murphy	Barbara-Anne (Online)		
Dwyer	John (Online)	Murphy	Bridín (Online)		
Fleming	John	O'Brien	Aoife Rose		
Forde	Tom	O'Rourke	John		
Kavanagh	Paddy	Shannon	Raymond		
Kehoe	Pat	Sheehan	Michael		
Kelly	Leonard (Online)	Staples	Frank (Online)		

Officials:

Ms. A. Byrne, A/Director of Services

Mr. M. Drea, County Secretary

Ms. C. Godkin, Director of Services

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services

Ms. L. Hore, Director of Services

Mr. Shay Howell, A/Director of Services

Mr. E. Taaffe, Chief Executive

Apologies: Cllr. Aidan Browne, Mary Farrell, Jackser Owens, Ms. Lynda Lacey, Director of Finance

Cathaoirleach Cllr. P. Breen began by welcoming Deputy's J. Mythen, F. Ó Súilleabháin, and G. Lawlor, and former Deputy B. Howlin. Cllr. Breen congratulated former Councillors George Lawlor and Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin on their election to Dáil Éireann. Cllr.'s G. Carthy, T. Forde, J. Codd, M. Sheehan, C. Walsh, J. Sullivan, O. Walsh, A.R. O'Brien, R. Shannon, P. Kavanagh and L. Kelly joined the Cathaoirleach in congratulating George Lawlor and Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin on their election.

Cathaoirleach Cllr. P. Breen extended his best wishes to Vicky Barron and Craig Doyle, the nominees for co-option to fill the casual vacancies. Cllr.'s G. Carthy, T. Forde, J. Codd, M. Sheehan, C. Walsh, J. Sullivan, O. Walsh, A.R. O'Brien, R. Shannon, P. Kavanagh and L. Kelly joined the Cathaoirleach in offering their best wishes to Vicky Barron and Craig Doyle.

Cllr. C. Walsh congratulated outgoing Deputy Brendan Howlin on his political career. Cllr.'s M. Sheehan, P. Kavanagh, and O. Walsh congratulated outgoing Deputy's Brendan Howlin and Paul Kehoe on their outstanding service. Cllr.'s A.R. O'Brien and O. Walsh congratulated Johnny Mythen on his re-election to Dáil Éireann.

Mr. E. Taaffe welcomed Deputy's J. Mythen, F. Ó Súilleabháin, and G. Lawlor, and former Deputy B. Howlin. On behalf of the staff and senior management team Mr. Taaffe congratulated former Councillors G. Lawlor and F. Ó Súilleabháin on their election to Dáil Éireann. Mr. Taaffe welcomed Vicky Barron and Craig Doyle and said he looks forward to working with them.

1. Filling of Casual Vacancy created by the election of George Lawlor to Dáil Éireann

On the proposal of Cllr. C. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan, and agreed by all, Vicky Barron was co-opted to fill the casual vacancy created by George Lawlor's election to Dáil Éireann in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Cllr. C. Walsh said Vicky's care and understanding of our communities most vulnerable, her passion for young people and the lives of their families and her drive to make a difference will make her a fine representative of the people of Wexford.

Cllr. M. Sheehan said he was delighted to second Vicky's nomination stating that she will bring a fresh approach and hit the ground running for the people of Wexford.

Cllr. V. Barron thanked her proposer and seconder and said it is a wonderful opportunity to work with Cllr. Walsh whom she has a lot of experience working with. Cllr. Barron thanked George Lawlor for the opportunity to be co-opted and Brendan Howlin who was her inspiration to get involved in politics.

Cllr. V. Barron thanked her mother Mary, father Tony, Sharon, Paul, and her husband Michael for all their support and said she is excited and looking forward to working with her new colleagues and the staff. Cllr. Barron finished by saying it is an honour and a privilege.

2. Filling of Casual Vacancy created by the election of Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin to Dáil Éireann

On the proposal of Cllr. T. Forde, seconded by Cllr. A.R. O'Brien, and agreed by all, Craig Doyle was co-opted to fill the casual vacancy created by Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin's election to Dáil Éireann in accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended.

Cllr. T. Forde said he knows Craig as an activist, hard worker, and respected in his community. Cllr. Forde said he was delighted to nominate Craig who is now the youngest member of the Council.

Cllr. A.R. O'Brien said she is delighted to no longer be the newest Councillor in the Chamber. Cllr. O'Brien said Craig will work hard and be a great addition to the Council.

Cllr. C. Doyle thanked Seamus Davitt, Deputy Johnny Mythen, Deputy Fionntán Ó Súilleabháin, Cllr. Tom Forde, and Cllr. Aoife Rose O'Brien for their help and support. Cllr. Doyle said he looked forward to working with his fellow Councillors.

Cllr.'s J. Fleming, O. Walsh, and J. Codd welcomed Cllr.'s Barron and Doyle onto the Council.

Cllr. T. Forde welcomed Cllr. Barron and said he is looking forward to working alongside her.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Daingithe ar an lá de Eanáir, 2025.

Cllr. Pip Breen
Cathaoirleach

Michael Drea,
County Secretary