**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

 **Minutes of Special Meeting of South Dublin County Council Meeting held on 27th July 2016.**

**PRESENT**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Councillors** |  | **Councillors** |
| Bonner, B.  |  | Looney, D. |
| Casserly, V. |  | Mc Cann, C.  |
| Coules, N. |  | Mahon, K. |
| Duff, M.  |  | Murphy, E. |
| Egan, K. |  | Murphy, M. |
| Fanning, E.  |  | Nolan, R.  |
| Foley, P.  |  | O’Brien, D.  |
| Genockey, M. |  | O’Brien, E.  |
| Gilligan, T.  |  | O’Connell, G. |
| Gogarty, P. |  | O’Connor, C. |
| Graham, J.  |  | O’Donovan, D.  |
| Higgins, E.  |  | O’Toole, L.  |
| Holland, S. |  | Richardson, D.  |
| Lavelle, W. |  | Timmons, F. |
| Lawlor, B. |  | Ward, M. |
| Leech, B. |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Acting Chief Executive | B. Coman. |
| Directors/ Heads of Function | F. Nevin, E. Taaffe.  |
| Senior Executive OfficersSenior Executive Engineer | M. Maguire, L. Magee.B. Harkin. |
| Administrative Officers | T. O’Neill.  |
|  Staff Officer Clerical Officer  | P. Brennan. M. Dunne. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Apologies from Cllrs R. McMahon. A.M. Dermody, P. Donovan, L. Dunne, B. Ferron, M. Johannsson, C. King, F. Duffy and P. Kearns,

The Mayor, Councillor G. O’Connell, presided.

**(H1)**  **TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS OF BALLYMOUNT CHARGES AND ARRANGEMENTS**

Mayor Gus O’Connell spoke to the Members and asked Acting CE Billy Coman to speak on the issue.

The following report by the Chief Executive had been circulated to the Members prior to the meeting.

 Mr. B. Coman Acting Chief Executive read the report that was circulated. He provided this as the communication in relation to the tender at Ballymount Civic Amenity was not clear. There was no intent nor ever any intent not to notify the Members or keep them informed on the matter following earlier updates in 2015.

A discussion followed with a contribution from Councillors D. Richardson, M. Murphy, P. Gogarty, W. Lavelle, D. O’Donovan, N. Coules, E. O’Brien, P. Foley, C. O’Connor, D. Looney, M. Duff, S. Holland, R. Nolan, D. O’Brien, L. O’Toole, B. Leech, B. Bonner, M. Ward, K. Mahon, E. Higgins and the Mayor G O’Connell

 The issues raised generally referenced poor communication, lack of transparency and information in relation to the operation of the amenity and signing of a new contract, affordability, need for such matters to be dealt with at CPG and SPC meetings, perception of privatization in this matter and others and level of fees for such a service.

 Mr. B. Coman Acting Chief Executive responded in the first instance that he was here as the Chief Executive and referenced the much work of the previous week to clarify issues with the operator of the Civic Amenity and liaised with the Members. The talks between South Dublin County Council and Panda were ongoing at present and as laid out in the report. The matter of communication is the issue.

 Mr. L. Magee Senior Engineer, Environment, Water and Climate Change responded to a number of specific queries raised in respect of the operation and management of the facility.

 Mr. B. Coman Acting Chief Executive Officer said it is important to have this discussion. It is disheartening to hear that the Councillors perceive that there is a them and us scenario. He reiterated the need to deal with the operation and management of the Civic Amenity at Ballymount and savings it brings instead of a loss making operation. There are National aspects connected to Waste charges that are relevant also.

The discussion continued with further contributions from Councillors D. O’Brien, C. O’Connor, G. O’Connell, M. Murphy, K. Mahon, D. Looney,

 It was confirmed that the fees for black bags are staying the same and other fees are going up.

 Mr. B. Coman Acting Chief Executive undertook to arrange a communication to the public through a press release and notice on the Councils website immediately.

 Meeting finished at 7pm.