

Minutes Meeting No. 17

28th May 2019 at 2pm.

Salthill Hotel, Galway

PRESENT

Dr. Tom Collins (Chairperson)

Connie Rochford, Tim Fenn , Dr. Suzanne Linnane, Gerald Quain, Bernadette Connolly, Sinead O'Brien, Dr. Tim Butter, David Wright, Ollan Herr, Derry Dillon, Brendan Fitzsimons, Denis Drennan, Barry Deane, Martin McEnroe and Dominic Cronin.

APOLOGIES

Thomas Cooney, Charles Stanley Smith, Neil Walker, Kevin Ryan, Jean Rosney, Laurie Kearon, Keith Hyland, Thomas Harrington and Liam Berney

IN ATTENDANCE

Sharon Kennedy

Item		Details	Action
1.1	Welcome and Apologies	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked the members for their attendance. He noted the apologies received.	Noted
1.2	Minutes of meeting held on 9th April.	The draft minutes of meetings held on the 9 TH April were noted and agreed.	Agreed
1.3	Matters arising	No matters arising.	Noted
2	Corporate Issues	<p>2.1 Update on staffing Sharon Kennedy updated the members with regard to the recruitment process and appointments. It was agreed to review the position of Technical Lead. Barry Deane, Sinead O'Brien, David Wright and Sharon Kennedy to consider same and revert.</p> <p>2.2 Symposium Following discussions, it was agreed that the theme of the symposium should be based on An Fóram's strategic objective in relation to leading the debate on water in Ireland, it should be linked to the sustainable</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>

		development goals and should be timed to link in with a national or international water themed event. The catchment management working group to address same at its next meeting.	
3	Water Supply Project	The members noted the report of Ms. Nelly Maublanc which had recently been shared. It was noted that the CRU has not yet advised on the timing and arrangements for their engagement with An Fóram. Following consideration of the report, it was agreed to hold a special meeting of the water services standing committee on the 19 th June to further consider An Fóram's submission to the CRU review. All members of An Fóram are welcome to attend the meeting. It was further agreed to open an on-line discussion where members can post any queries in relation to the report and to also liaise with Irish Water with regard to a number of queries.	noted
4.	Updates from Standing Committees	<p>4.1 Report from the Water Services Standing Committee Barry Deane reported on the meeting of the WSSC which was held on the 1st May. It was noted that the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for the 26th June.</p> <p>4.2 Catchment Management Standing Committee The briefing note from the CMSC meetings held on the 1st May, 9th May and 17th May which had previously been circulated to the members was noted by all. It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for the 26th June.</p>	Noted
5	Strategic Themes	<p>5.1 – Strategic Theme 6 It was noted that Ms. Neasa Kane Fine (RPS) will be in attendance at the July meeting to commence the process of drafting a Communications Strategy.</p> <p>5.2 and 5.3 – Strategic Theme 7 Sharon Kennedy advised that the Research on public and stakeholder engagement is to be completed and submitted this week. It was noted that this desktop study will assist An Fóram in relation to its submission on the DHPLG public consultation on the 3rd Cycle RBMP process. It was also noted that this submission must be with the Department by the 28th June. Accordingly, it was agreed to post the relevant documentation on the on-line forum and that members might post any suggested responses on same. The matter will be considered by the Catchment Management Standing Committee at its meeting scheduled for the 26th June.</p>	Noted Noted
6	AOB	<p>Submission on the DAFM's review of the nitrates derogation The Chairperson referred to the draft submission on the DAFM's review of the nitrates derogation by the Department of Agriculture and to observations posted on the on-line forum during the past number of days with regard to same. Following a lengthy discussion with regard to this item and also the procedure in relation to finalising submissions, it was agreed that the draft be amended by the inclusion of a single</p>	Agreed

		<p>sentence which would read as follows: <i>‘While this submission reflects the view of An Fóram, it does not necessarily reflect the full views of any constituent stakeholder group’</i>. It was further agreed that a similar sentence will be included in future submissions, as appropriate.</p> <p>DAFM Public Consultation Process on the Draft Code of Good Agricultural Practice for reducing Ammonia Emissions from Agriculture.</p> <p>The members were advised that the DAFM has recently launched a public consultation process on the Draft Code of Good Agricultural Practice for reducing ammonia emissions from agriculture with a closing date of the 21st June. It was agreed that An Fóram would make a submission in relation to same. The matter will be considered at a special focus meeting on the 19th June and contact will be made with the DAFM to request attendance at same and also an extension of the date for submission.</p>	
7	Next meeting	<p>The schedule of meetings for the next month was noted:</p> <p>19th June – special meeting to consider the WSP and also the submission on the Departments consultation in relation to Ammonia.</p> <p>26th June – meetings of the Water Services Standing Committee and the Catchment Management Standing Committee.</p> <p>16th July – Plenary meeting of An Fóram.</p>	Noted.

Signed:

Dr. Tom Collins, Chairperson