

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 14 May 2024

A meeting of Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board took place on Tuesday, 14 May 2024 at 2pm, in The Workhouse, Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan.

Cathaoirleach:

PJ O'Hanlon

Baill | Lathair:

Madeleine Argue, April Anna Barker, Carmel Brady, Aidan Campbell, Colm Carthy, Brendan Fay, Sean Fegan, Michelle Flynn, Clifford Kelly, Micheal Martin, Joe McGrath, Rory McMahon and PJ O'Hanlon.

Leithsceil:

Sean Conlon, Rosena Donagh, David Maxwell, Martin McBreen,

Sarah O' Reilly, Aine Smith and Patricia Walsh.

Ar Freastail:

Dr Fiona McGrath, Chief Executive

Karen McBride, DOSD Dr Linda Pinkster, DFET

Paddy Flood, DoS Amanda Taylor, APO Finance

Pauline Grogan, Head of HR

Geraldine McKenna, Communications Officer

Stephanie McGarry, Administrator Seamus Enright, Anglo Celt

ETBI General Secretary, Paddy Lavelle joined the meeting online via Teams to present item no. 7.2.2.1 and left immediately afterwards.

1 Preliminary

1.1 Welcome

Chairperson PJ O'Hanlon said he was delighted to welcome all present to the Workhouse in Carrickmacross. He acknowledged the positive work by local people in developing the Workhouse facilities so far and noted the premises is open 7 days per week, with CMETB using the facilities regularly for classes and services. He welcomed Yvonne Marron, Manager of the Workhouse who addressed the meeting.

Yvonne welcomed the Board members to the Workhouse and spoke of the long-established relationship with CMETB and previously Co Monaghan VEC over the past 21 years. Co Monaghan VEC were the first agency to hold a Board meeting in the Workhouse after it opened, chaired by Clir Rosaleen O'Hanlon. Yvonne acknowledged CMETB has responded to the growth of the population in Carrickmacross by delivering 28 weekly courses in the Workhouse to a minimum of 350 learners, in contrast to 2 courses a year delivered back in 2003, when the Workhouse opened. Yvonne advised that Monaghan County Council, owners of the Workhouse and the surrounding 6-acre site since 2020, are preparing a Masterplan to continue the redevelopment of the Workhouse as a Community Hub. The Workhouse looks forward to continued use of its facilities by CMETB in the years to come. The Chair suggested that the CMETB Board continues its collaborative approach to expand



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the delivery of classes to meet the increasing demand in south Monaghan. The Workhouse manager left the room and the meeting commenced.

1.2 Declaration of Interest

Declarations of Conflict of Interest were invited with none arising. Members were reminded of their responsibilities and that should any Conflict of Interest arise in the course of the meeting they must declare at that stage.

- 1.3 In Committee Business
- 1.3.1 OSD and FET Matters

"In Camera business"

It was resolved: R. 01/05/2024

"to conduct the following business "In Camera" due to it being commercially sensitive and its confidential nature."

Proposed by Cllr C Brady Seconded by Mr M Martin





It was resolved: R. 02/05/2024

"that "In-Camera" business had been concluded."

Proposed by Clir C Kelly

Seconded by Mr M Martin

Passed Unanimously

As "In Committee business" had concluded, the media joined the meeting.

1.4 Apologies/Absence Approval

The absences of Cllr S Conion, Ms R Donagh, Cllr D Maxwell, Mr M McBreen, Cllr S O'Reilly, Cllr A Smith and Cllr P Walsh were approved.



Condolences

- To the McQuillan family on the death of Johnny McQuillan (Retired Caretaker, Largy College)
- To Elaine Hackett (Monaghan Admin office) on the death of her mother Mary McKenna.
- To Deirdre and Charlie Byrne (AEO and AE Tutor) on the death of Charlie's mother, Lillie Byrne.
- To Niamh McBreen (Castleblayney SCP) on the death of her father Patsy Lynch.
- To Emma Curtis (Castleblayney College) on the death of her father Lawrence Stewart
- To the Cadden family on the death of Ronan Cadden (Past Pupil of Largy College).

Congratulations

- To Inver College students, Amaya and Marta winners of the TY Young Cook of the Year competition in Cavan Institute.
- To Virginia College 1st Year Girls Basketball Team, who won the All-Ireland A Plate Final.
- To Coláiste Dún an Rí TY students who won the National Young Social Innovators Award and will go on to represent Ireland in Tokyo in August.

1.5 Minutes of Meeting

It was resolved: R. 03/05/2024

"to adopt minutes of the meeting of Cavan and Monaghan ETB held on 27 March 2024".

Proposed by Cllr C Kelly

Seconded by Cllr C Brady

Passed Unanimously

1.6 Matters Arising

Following the last Board meeting the CE confirmed letters were issued to:

- Minister Simon Harris Congratulations
- Minister Norma Foley extension of the School Book Scheme and School Transport Service
- Dept of Education notice of CMETB motion rescinded.

The CE also advised a staff election for staff representatives for the new CMETB Board was not required as just 1 male and 1 female staff member were nominated.

2 Correspondence and Matters Arising

2.1 Correspondence

2.1.1 Department of Education Circulars

Circular Number	Details		
Circular 0025/2024	Report of Education Needs for the Purpose of the Assessment of Need Disability Act 2005		
Circular 0028/2024	Appointment of Administrative Deputy Principals and Staffing Arrangements in Special Schools to take effect from the 2024/2025 school year		
Circular 0031/2024	Allocation of Assistant Principal Posts 2024/2025		
Circular 0032/2024	Revised Pay Rates due under Building Momentum - A New Public Service Agreement 2021-2023 ("The Agreement") for Tutors Delivering Adult Education in Certain ETBs		
Circular 0033/2024	Revision of Teacher Salaries under Public Service Agreement 2024- 2026. Application of pay adjustments due on 1 January 2024.		
Circular 0034/2024	Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) under the Public Service Agreement 2024-2026. Application of pay adjustments due on 1 January 2024.		
Circular 0035/2024	Revision of Salaries and Allowances of Certain Grades other than Teachers and SNAs employed by ETBs under The Public Service. Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 January 2024, Application of pay adjustments due on 1 January 2024		
Circular 0038/2024	Revision of Salaries for School Secretaries Previously Funded Under Ancillary Grant Funding. Application of pay adjustments due on 1 January 2024		
Circular 0039/2024	Grant Scheme for ICT Infrastructure.		
Circular 0040/2024	Information in relation to Standardised Testing and Other Matters – Academic Year 2023/24 and Subsequent Years		

Note: Department of Education Circulars are available to download from the Department's

website: https://www.gov.ie/en/circulars/?organisation=department-of-education

Read

2.1.2 Department of Education Correspondence

Date	Subject	
03.04.2024	Acknowledgement of CMETB letter to Minister Foley to make school transport available to all students.	
03.04.2024 Acknowledgement of CMETB letter to Minister Foley to expansion of CMETB letter to Minister Foley to expansio		
05.04.2024	St. Mogue's College Subject Inspection – Home Economics Report	



Read

2.1.3 Department of Education Finance Correspondence

Date	Subject
17.04.2024	Digital Strategy ICT Grant for Schools

Read

2.1.4 Correspondence from other Sources- Finance

Date	From	Additional Resources and Payment arrangements to schools to support the running of the State Examinations 2024 School Meals (Local Projects) Scheme 2023-2024: Castleblayney College; Revised Allocation	
March 2024	State Examinations Commission		
26.03.2024	DSP		
29.03.2024	ESBS ETB Payroll	Service Management Agreement between the DE – ESBS Centre and CMETB	
19.04.2024	IPB Insurance	Members Special Dividend re 2022 €40,919.45	
26.04.2024	DSP	School Meals (Local Projects) Scheme 2023-2024: St Mogue's College: Overall Allocation of €44,566.50 has been approved with the first instalment of €13,674.24 to issue shortly.	
03.05.2024	Léargas	2024-1-IE01-KA121-ADU-000221212 Grant Award €69,126 for Adult Education	
07.05.2024	Léargas	2024-1-IE01-KA121-VET-000230652 Grant Award €206,499 for Cavan Institute	
08.05.2024	Léargas	2024-1-IE01-KA121-SCH-000196150 Grant Award €53,840 for Schools	

Read

2.1.5 Correspondence from other Sources- General

Date From		Subject	
29.03.2024	ESBS ETB Payroll	Data Processing Agreement between ESBS ETB Payroll and CMETB	
05.04.2024	IPB Insurance	Notice of AGM - 03 May 2024	

Read

2.1.6 Correspondence Sent

Date To 28.03.2024 Dept of Education		Notice of reversal of Boards decision to amalgamate St. Bricin's and St. Mogue's Colleges	



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28.03.2024 Minister Norma Foley		Request to extend the School Book Scheme to Senior Cycle students	
28.03.2024	Minister Norma Foley	Request to extend school transport service to all school going children.	
15.04.2024	A.B. O'Reilly Dolan & Co. Solicitors	Follow up response	

Read

2.2 Correspondence: Matters Arising

No business

3 Audit and Risk Committee

No business

- 4 Finance
- 4.1 Finance Committee

No business

4.2 Finance update

Ms Amanda Taylor, Finance Officer, briefed the meeting on the Financial Report for April 2024.

5 OSD Matters

5.1 Land and Buildings

The DOSD gave a comprehensive presentation on the Land and Buildings report. (see Appendix B). The Board thanked DOSD and acknowledged the significant funding and workload dealt with by DOSD and the Land and Building's Team. However, members discussed a number of projects that are not progressing as quickly as hoped, namely Inver College and non-ETB school Gaelscoil Lorgan.

While a member welcomed the delivery of a modular unit at Inver College for use in September 2024, it was stressed that the promised extension was urgent to cater for the growing student numbers. The extension for Inver College is long overdue and must be a priority for the Board and Executive.



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It was noted that Co Monaghan has the highest number of students attending Gaelscoileanna. There is an urgency for the Gaelscoil Lorgan building project to progress to meet this demand in the area. This project is currently with the technical team in the DE.

A member noted additional storage facilities will be required for student projects for every subject in the Senior Cycle, commencing September 2025. This should be considered for all schools.

A member enquired if there was funding available to schools for the installation of specialist equipment. DOSD advised that schools have non pay budget that could be used for this purpose and the DOS also noted that schools received a digital grant recently which can be prioritised for the installation of IT equipment. There were also queries about equipment for the Home Economics room in Virginia College and the installation of a toilet in St Bricin's College.

5.1.1 Leases/Contracts

No business

5.2 Risk Management Report

The DOSD gave a presentation on the Risk Management Report. (See Appendix C).

In relation to risks associated with ICT, a member suggested more IT staff are needed to assist with digital expansion, particularly in schools.

Noted

5.3 Summary of Executive Orders

No business

5.4 Use of Facilities

CMETB Centre	Requester	Dates Required
Beech Hill College (Running Track)	Monaghan Town Community Games	Wednesday 15th May 2024 from 7pm to 8,30pm
Castleblayney College (Indoor Hall & Grass Pitch)	Monaghan GAA - Kellogs Cúl Camps	Tuesday 2nd July to Thursday 4th July 2024 from 2pm to 5pm
Castleblayney College (Indoor Hall & Upstairs Gym)	Monaghan GAA	Tuesday 7th May 2024 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Cavan Institute & Carpark	Cavan Arts Festival	17th to 19th May 2024 from 9am to 10pm
Cavan Institute (1 Room)	Cavan Arts Festival	14th to 17th May 2024 from 9am to 5pm or (ordinary closure time of building)



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Cavan Institute (Car park)	Darkness Into Light	May 11th 2024 from 6pm to 6am
Inver College (Classrooms & Staff Room, Canteen Area)	Carrickmacross Comhaltas	6th April 2024 from 9am to 2pm
Inver College (PE Hall)	North East Musical & Dramatic Society	24th & 25th April, & 2nd, 9th, 16th 23rd & 30th May 2024 from 7.30pm to 10pm
Tanagh OETC (Prefab)	HSE (Health Promotion & Improvement	18 April 2024 from 9am to 4pm
Virginia College (Sports Hall)	Irish Blood Transfusion Service	7th August 2024 from 3.45pm to 10.30pm
Virginia College (Sports Hall)	Irish Blood Transfusion Service	24th November 2024 from 3.45pm to 10.30pm

It was resolved: R. 04/05/2024

"to approve the use of facilities as outlined above subject to the usual conditions".

Proposed by Mr M Martin

Seconded by Cllr C Brady

Passed Unanimously

5.5 Other Matters: No business

6 Strategy Statement 2022-2026

6.1 Policies: No business

6.2 SLA/MOU/Consortium Agreement: For noting

Organisation	Project Title
ESBS ETB Payroll	Service Management Agreement between DE – ESBS Centre and CMETB
ESBS ETB Payroll	Data Processing Agreement between ESBS ETB Payroll and CMETB
Acquired Brain Injury	Development of Community Facilities
Belturbet and District Men's Shed	Welding Workshop Fitout
Cavan Autism Centre	Autism Inclusion
Cavan Autism Parents Support	CAPS Support Services
	ESBS ETB Payroll ESBS ETB Payroll Acquired Brain Injury Belturbet and District Men's Shed Cavan Autism Centre



6.2.7	Cavan Traveller Movement	Supporting Capacity Building & Community Participation of Traveller Women in Cavan
6.2.8	FET Services Learner Support	Support for FET Services Leaners
6.2.9	Foroige	Personal Development/Resilience/Mental Health Programme
6.2.10	Merchant's Quay	Educational/Training Equipment and Activities for Participants in Recovery for Addiction
6.2.11	Teach Oscail FRC	Teach Oscail Family and Youth Support
6.2.12	Peace Link	Community Leaders Programme
6.2.13	Unique Parents Support Group	Empowering Inclusive Education for Families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder

Noted

6.3 Annual Report 2023

The CE briefed the meeting on the Annual Report 2023 which was circulated in advance of the meeting (see **Appendix D**).

It was resolved: 05/05/2024

"to adopt the Annual Report 2023".

Proposed by Cllr A Campbell Seconded by Mr M Martin

Passed Unanimously

6.4 Chairperson's Comprehensive Report 2023

The Chairperson's Comprehensive Report 2023 was considered.

It was resolved: 06/05/2024

"to approve signing of the Chairperson's Comprehensive Report 2023."

Proposed by Cllr C Brady Seconded by Mr M Martin



7 Committees and Reports

7.1 Further Education and Training

7.1.1 DFET Report

Director of Further Education and Training gave a comprehensive update on FET activities (see **Appendix E**).

The Chair of the Youth Work Committee thanked DFET for her contribution and acknowledged the volume of services within the FET area, in particular the valuable work of the Youth Service. He also encouraged Board members to attend the Presentation of the Youth Club Grants Scheme in Cootehill on 16 May.

Noted

7.1.2 CMETB FET Board:

7.1.2.1 CMETB FET Board Minutes:

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the FET Board as follows:

Resolution No.	A STATE OF THE STA	Date	Proposed / Seconded
R. 07/05/2024	FET Board Minutes	14.12.2023	P: Mr J McGrath S: Cllr C Brady

Passed Unanimously

7.1.3 Boards of Management

7.1.3.1 Board of Management Minutes

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meetings of Boards of Management as follows:

Resolution No.	Centre	Date	Proposed / Seconded
R. 08/05/2024	Cavan Institute	29.02.2024	P: Ms M Flynn S: Clir M Argue
R. 09/05/2024	Tanagh OETC	15.01.2024	P: Clir C Brady S: Clir B Fay



7.1.4 Youth Work Committee:

7.1.4.1 Appointment of Nominee from Statutory Body to Youth Work Committee

It was resolved to appoint the following to the Youth Work Committee:

Resolution No.	Nominee	Proposed / Seconded
R. 12/05/2024	Cait Fleming	P: Cllr C Carthy S: Mr M Martin

Passed Unanimously

7.1.5 Creative Youth Arts Committee

7.1.5.1 It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Creative Youth Arts Committee as follows:

Resolution No.		Date	Proposed / Seconded
	Creative Youth Arts		P: Ms M Flynn
R. 13/05/2024	Committee	23.02.2024	S: Cllr B Fay

7.1.6 FET Policies: No business

7.1.7 Child Protection: No business

7.2 Schools

7.2.1 DoS Report

The Director of Schools gave a comprehensive update on schools (see Appendix F).

The Board members requested a letter of congratulations be sent to the Principal, staff and students of Breifne College regarding the schools "Gifted and Talented Initiative" that featured in a recent RTE Nationwide programme.

Proposed by: Clir Carmel Brady

Seconded by: Mr M Martin



7.2.2 Boards of Management

7.2.2.1 Terms of Reference for ETBs Post Primary Schools Board of Management

The Chair welcomed ETBI Secretary General Paddy Lavelle, who joined the meeting remotely via Teams. He gave a detailed presentation on the new ETBI Terms of Reference for ETB Post Primary School Boards of Management (see Appendix G). These are the operating rules for Boards of Management which need to be adopted and followed. ETB Boards of Management are Committees under Section 44 of ETB Act 2013 to manage the school on behalf of the Patron. The statutory functions of the Board of Management are outlined under section 15(1) of the Education Act 1998. Boards of Managements still need to report to the ETB on how they are carrying out their functions. When Boards of Management follow the Terms of Reference they are indemnified re any actions taken by the Board. Members of the Board of Management are appointed by the CMETB Board. The Terms of Reference replace the ETBI Board of Management Handbook, adopted in 2016.

A member asked whether the disposal or leasing of land should be brought to the Board of Management for recommendation before going to the ETB Board for approval. Mr Lavelle advised legally the Board of Management does not have to be consulted and the disposal and acquisition of land is an ETB decision. However, it would be best practice to discuss plans with the Board of Management.

The DoS thanked Mr Lavelle for joining the meeting to give the presentation.

It was resolved: 15/05/2024

"to adopt the ETBI Terms of Reference for ETB Post Primary School Boards of Management".

Proposed by Clir A Campbell Seconded by Clir C Brady

Passed Unanimously

7.2.2.2 Board of Management Minutes: No business

7.2.3 Music Generation Committee

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Music Generation Committee as follows:

Resolution No.	Date Proposed / Seconded		
R. 17/05/2024	Music Generation Committee Minutes	02.02.2024	P: Mr J McGrath S: Clir A Campbell

Passed Unanimously

- 7.2.3 School Based Policies for noting: No business
- 7.2.4 Child Protection: No business
- 7.2.5 Anti-Bullying Policy Annual Review: No business
- 8 Attendance Approval: No business
- 9 Chief Executive Report

Meetings Attended:

Date	Details			
28.03.2024	Cavan LAG and LCDC meeting			
08.04.2024	 NTO meeting re development of a Tertiary programme for Primary Teaching in Dept of Education, Dublin 			
09.04.2024	Youthreach BOM Meeting			
11.04.2024	FET Management & Quality Council Meeting Music Generation Committee meeting in Cavan Institute St. Aidan's Comprehensive BOM Meeting			
12.04.2024	Meeting with CMETB Principals Official Opening of Tanagh Bike track by Minister H Humphreys			
15.04.2024	 C&AG Audit 2023 - Closing meeting with ASM 			
16.04.2024	National Briefing re Adult Educator Proposal			
17.04.2024	Meeting with DE re extra second level co-op hrs for Special Schools CE Forum CMETB FET Board Meeting			
23.04.2024	Meeting with Virginia Show Society in Virginia Meeting with Virginia College planning objectors			
24.04.2024	 Meeting re CoF proposal with Solas and DFHERIS in Solas, Dublin ETBI Joint meeting with Forums in Athlone 			
25.04.2024	ETBI Joint meeting with Forums in Athlone			
29.04.2024	Meeting with Solas re update on Apprenticeship backlog			
30.04.2024	 ETBI - Legal updates seminar for Principals and Deputies in Athlone 			
01.05.2024	REALT Meeting			
08.05.2024	Meeting with IPB re Cyber Security Insurance cover			
09.05.2024	 Meeting in MI with international panel of experts who are researching FET Practitioner models for DFHERIS Solas meeting – re 2024 funding and provision delivery Meeting with DKIT re Tertiary degree project 			



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10.05.2024	IAU ETBs OAC meeting in Mullingar
13.05.2024	 Meeting with DE Buildings Unit re Virginia College building project
14.05.2024	 CMETB Board meeting in The Workhouse, Carrickmacross

Noted

10. Board Workplan

Noted

Date of First Post Election Meeting: (Between 7 August and 7 September)

Tuesday 20 August Tuesday 27 August

Regarding a proposed date for the Special Board meeting, Mr M Martin suggested out of respect for Council colleagues to wait until the 2nd or 3nd week of June when the local elections will be completed. The Chair agreed with a preference for an in-person meeting, provided a quorum is available to attend.

Cllr PJ O'Hanlon reflected on the past year as Chair of CMETB stating it had been a good year for both Cavan and Monaghan in terms of investment. He acknowledged the significant improvements made possible with resources from the DE and the help of the Senior Management Team under the leadership of Chief Executive Dr Fiona McGrath. He noted CMETB is the biggest employer in the region. He thanked the elected members of the Board for their support. He acknowledged the commitment of the non-elected Board members who give up their time voluntarily to attend Board meetings in support of CMETB.

Mr M Martin thanked the ETB and fellow Board members for their support during his term as staff representative on the Board and wished the new Staff representatives well in their new role.

Clir Carthy thanked the Board members and executive for their support over the last few years. He acknowledged his time serving on schools Boards of Management and the learning experience.

Mr J McGrath stated it was a privilege to serve on the Board. He acknowledged the passion and support the Cilrs gave to their towns and surrounding areas. He thanked the executive for the work they do. He acknowledged that he and Cilr M Argue were the longest serving Board members having sat together at the first meeting of CMETB in 2013.

Clir M Argue said she had the privilege of being involved with Cavan VEC and CMETB for the past 25 years. It is amazing to see how CMETB has come so far since that first meeting, which is all because of the passion and commitment of the people involved. Clir Argue confirmed her retirement from Cavan Co Council and stated that both counties have a lot in



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common, with similar issues. She thanked everyone and asked them to continue to do their best for CMETB.

Cllr C Brady said it was a pleasure to be on the CMETB Board for the past ten years and a privilege to be nominated as Chairperson for one of the years. She acknowledged the huge workload taking place in the background by all the teams and that CMETB is a wonderful family to be involved in, with the success of the students being the ultimate aim. Cllr Brady hopes the good work continues.

Cllr A Campbell concurred with the above remarks. He paid tribute to Cllr M Argue on the service she provided in her public life and wished her well in her retirement.

The CE Dr Fiona McGrath thanked all the Board members for their support over the past two years including the Staff representatives, elected members, and the new parent representative. The CE also thanked Clir M Argue for her contribution to CMETB and wished her well in her retirement.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm

Signed_

Chief Executive

Date 30 July 2024

Signed

Date

30 July 2024