



**Minutes of Special Rathkeale Area Committee Meeting
Held in Meeting Room 2, Floor 3, County Hall, Dooradoyle,
on Monday 11th December, 2006 – 10.30.a.m.**

Present In the Chair : Councillor D. Naughton.

Members Present : Councillors J. Griffin, T. Neville, J. Sheahan, K. Sheahan.

Officials Present : B. Martin S.E.E., T. Breen, S.O., J. Guinane, A.O.

Apologies : J. Feane, D.O.S.

Intoxicating Liquor Bye-Laws – A.O., Bruff/Castleconnell.

Councillor D. Naughton spoke of his reservations to the introduction of proposed Intoxicating Liquor Bye-Laws, and was of the view that adequate powers were available to the Garda Siochana under existing legislation. Councillor Naughton confirmed he would not be supporting the Motion.

Councillor T. Neville stated his agreement in principal to supporting the proposed Intoxicating Liquor Bye-Laws, provided the additional powers made available to the Garda Siochana under the bye-laws were used on a common sense basis. Councillor Neville's support was also conditional on the elected Members being afforded the opportunity to review the operation of the bye-laws on request.

Councillor J. Griffin confirmed his support of the proposed Motion would be conditional, and subject to a review of the operation/application of the Bye-laws by the Garda Siochana. Councillor Griffin accepted certain sections of the community were drinking unsocially and causing problems for the general public, but was anxious that use of the additional powers being made available to the Gardai not have implications for, or interfere with the compliant citizen.

J. Guinane, A.O., informed Members it was not an offence to consume alcohol within thirty metres of a licensed premises. It was Mr. Guinane's understanding, that following discussions with the Garda Chief Superintendent the bye-laws, if introduced, would be used on a selective basis to deal with specific social order problems associated with the consumption of alcohol in public places.

In proposing that the Intoxicating Bye-Laws be agreed by the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee, Councillor K. Sheahan spoke of witnessing the problems associated with the consumption of liquor in a public place, on sections of the river-bank in Newcastle West, and was also aware of there being a limited problem at the Abbey in Askeaton, at one stage. Councillor Sheahan recommended that agreement to the proposal be subject to Members being afforded the opportunity to review the operation of, and amend if necessary the Intoxicating Liquor Bye-laws. The proposal was seconded by Councillor J. Griffin, and supported by Councillor T. Neville. Councillor D. Naughton requested his dissention to the proposed Bye-laws be recorded.

That concluded the business of the Meeting.

Signed: _____Chairman.

Dated this 26th day of FEBRUARY, 2007.

_____Secretary.