

**Minutes of Resumed Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> of May, 2010 at 3.00p.m. in the Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. Michael O' Brien.

**Present:** Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, P. Millea, M. Shortall, J. Brennan, C. Connery, M. Fitzpatrick, J. Coonan, A. McGuinness, M. Brett, B. Manning, M. Doran, W. Ireland, P. Crowley, T. Maher, S. Treacy, P. O' Neill, A. Phelan, E. Aylward, A. M. Irish, F. Doherty, C. Long, T. Breathnach, P. Dunphy.

**Also Present:** J. Crockett County Manager, P. O' Neill & J. McCormack Directors of Services, J. Dempsey Head of Finance, D. McDonnell Management Accountant, B. Mernagh Senior Engineer, M. Delahunty, M. Mullally and A.M. Walsh Senior Executive Officers, N. McCabe Administrative Officer, A.M. Robinson Housing Liaison Officer and Adrian Waldron Meetings Administrator.

**Item 2(e) Housing – Tithíocht**

**(i) Quarterly Housing Report 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010**

The meeting recommenced with the Quarterly Housing Report up to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010.

John McCormack Director of Services for Housing and Anne Maria Walsh Housing Officer replied to questions from members which had been asked at the initial meeting in April.

Amongst the topics addressed were:-

- Clarification regarding the status of the voluntary housing body Helm
- An outline of the leasing system and the rental accommodation scheme
- A view on the changing role of the housing function from that of direct provision to being an enabler dealing with third parties.
- Update on St. Catherine's housing halting site
- Comment on the number of housing applicants refusing local authority housing and choosing to remain within the private sector.
- Outline of the capital allocations for 2010

- Update on Ossory Park
- Update on the Part V process
- Update on the Housing Improvement Scheme
- Update on mobility grants
- Outline of the take up on the Affordable Housing Scheme
- An explanation of the incremental purchase scheme regulations which come into operation on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 2010.

There followed a debate on the report and on the answers given to the queries originally raised at April to which a number of members contributed. A number of members contributing expressed concerns regarding the leasing scheme. It was proposed by Cllr. A. Phelan, Seconded by Cllr. T. Maher:- “That Kilkenny County Council write to the Minister for the Environment and Minister for Housing stating that they reject the leasing scheme in its present format as it transfers social obligations from the current Government to future generations”.

In response to further queries from members the Director of Housing and Housing Officer outlined further issues that arose regarding the leasing scheme and how the liaison operates between the housing authority, voluntary groups and developers to utilise and promote the various schemes to alleviate the numbers on the housing list.

Contributions:- Cllrs. M. Shortall, M. Doran, A. Phelan, M. Fitzpatrick, E. Aylward, T. Maher, T. Breathnach, M. Brett, J. Brennan, P. Crowley, A.M. Irish, P. O’ Neill.

## **(ii) Draft Scheme of Letting Priorities**

Item deferred

It was also agreed that the report on Unfinished Housing Estates would be placed on the agenda for the May meeting.

## **(f) Corporate - Gnóthaí Corparáideacha**

- (i) Filling of vacancy caused on County Kilkenny Leader Partnership caused by resignation of Cllr. A.M. Irish. Proposed by Cllr. M. H. Cavanagh, Seconded by Cllr. P. O’ Neill: - “That Cllr. T. Maher be approved to fill the vacancy caused on County Kilkenny Leader Partnership by the resignation of Cllr. A.M. Irish”.

## **(ii) Report of Kilkenny County Council Audit Committee**

Proposed by Cllr. P. Millea, Seconded by Cllr. C. Connery and resolved: - “That the 2009 Report be and is hereby approved”.

**(iii)** Minor Flood Mitigation Works

It was proposed by Cllr. E. Aylward, Seconded by Cllr. S. Treacy and resolved:-  
“That Kilkenny County Council will now proceed to detailed design, public consultation and tender stage in respect of minor flood mitigation works in accordance with the report circulated to members on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2010”.

**(iv)** Use of County Hall, John Street as a public car park

In introducing this item the Cathaoirleach drew member’s attention to the report which had been circulated to them from the Directors of Services for Roads and Corporate Affairs John Mulholland on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, 2010 regarding the use of County Hall grounds as a public car park. He confirmed to members that this item had been discussed in detail at the Corporate Policy Group meeting and had been supported at that meeting.

The meeting agreed to proceed as per the report circulated.

**(g)** Finance – Airgeadas

Annual Financial Statement 2009 - Deferred

**3. Urgent Correspondence - Comhfhreagras Práinneach**

None

**4. Business adjourned from a previous Meeting - Gnó ar athló ó chruinniú**

**roimhe seo:**

None

**5. Fix Dates and Times of Meetings - Dátaí agus Amanta do chruinnithe a shocrú:**

Schedule agreed.

**6. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations of Committees of the Council**

**- Plé ar Thuairiscí agus Moltaí ó Choistí an Comhairle:**

**(a)** Report on Thomastown Electoral Area Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2009  
(Deferred from February Meeting)

- (b)** Report on Ballyragget Electoral Area Meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2009 (Deferred from February Meeting)
- (c)** Report on SPC 3 Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010 (Deferred from February Meeting)
- (d)** Report on Piltown Electoral Area Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (Deferred from February Meeting)
- (e)** Report on Special Meeting of Forward Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee SPC 1 held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (Deferred from March Meeting)
- (f)** Report of SPC 5 Arts, Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Education Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (Deferred from March Meeting)
- (g)** Report on Thomastown Electoral Area Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (Deferred from March Meeting)
- (h)** Report on Kilkenny Electoral Area Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (copy of report attached)
- (i)** Report on Strategic Policy Committee 2 Meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010 (copy of report attached)
- (a)** Report on SPC 3 Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010 (copy of report attached)

All reports deferred.

It was agreed that the items deferred together with the Notice of Motions would be placed on the agenda for the May Meeting of Kilkenny County Council.

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CATHAOIRLEACH

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DATE

