

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING IN COMMITTEE HELD 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2014

**Chair:** Cllr. P. Millea  
**Councillors:** All in attendance  
**Officials:** John Mulholland, P. O'Neill, J. McCormack, S. Walton, M. Prendiville,  
AM Walsh

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Cllr. Millea advised Members that he had requested the Executive to brief Members on possible new position on aspects of the Kilkenny Central Access Scheme following the approval by An Bord Pleanala for the Kilkenny Northern Ring Road Extension.

Mr. Mulholland advised that a decision has been received from An Bord Pleanala on the Kilkenny Northern Ring Road Extension. Approval has been received for the construction of the extension to the Ring Road between the N77 Castlecomer Road and the R693 Freshford Road which will include the construction of a 3 span bridge over the River Nore. He advised Members that having regard to this approval, there is a change in the position of the Council for the Central Access scheme. He circulated a document to all Members outlining the new proposals which will benefit Kilkenny City.

He stated that the Executive will continue to put pressure on the NRA and Department in seeking funding for the Northern Ring Road. There is a commitment to deal with the management of HGV's from the Kennyswell Road area. He recommended that Members should consider the proposals.

Cllr. P. Millea thanked the Executive for their work in preparing the proposals. He stated that he is glad that a lot of thought has been put into the proposals and an effort to deal with the issues of the protestors.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. MH Cavanagh, M. Noonan, M. Doran, K. Funchion, P. Dunphy, D. Fitzgerald, J. Brennan, F. Doherty and B. Gardner.

Members in general thanked Mr. Mulholland and Mr. Walton for their input into the proposals and hoped that members of the public will buy into plan.

The main issues raised by Members are as follows: -

- Funding for the Northern Ring Road
- Visual appearance of bridge (CAS) is a concern for most people
- Lack of awareness on impact of CAS for Wolfe Tone Street residents
- Development of Diageo site – opening up St. Francis Abbey for public realm
- Access to city centre for job creation and also emergency services
- Upgrading of the existing Freshford Road
- Finish/colour of Lady Desart Bridge

- Social media campaigns Mooncoin By Pass – not to lose priority.

Mr. Mulholland responded to the queries raised.

Cllrs. Function, Noonan and Gardner stated that people have a right to protest and that a review of the Central Access Scheme is required to look at other alternatives.

Mr. Mulholland requested Members to consider the proposals before them and that the Executive are available to answer any queries in relation to the proposals. The management of HGV's will be discussed with Hauliers. The Kilkenny City Municipal District Members will have an opportunity to discuss the HGV Management Plan and approve it.

A number of Members requested that the Committee write to the Minister to seek the requested funding for the Northern Ring Road.

Cllr. Noonan asked Members to deal with the Notices of Motion on the Agenda today.

Cllr. P. Millea closed the meeting at this stage.

**End.**