

MIONTUAIRISCÍ AR AN GCRUINNIÚ IOMLÁNACH DE CHUID
CHOMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH TIONÓLTA AR DÉ
AOINE, 28 IÚIL 2023 AG 3.00 I.N. I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE,
HALLA AN CHONTAE & VIA FOIRNE MS



MINUTES OF ADJOURNED PLENARY MEETING OF KILKENNY
COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY, 28TH JULY, 2023 AT 3.00 P.M.
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL & VIA MS TEAMS

Chair: Cllr. Michael Doyle.

Elected Members: *Council Chamber*

Cllrs. John Brennan, Martin Brett, Tomás Breathnach, John Coonan, Peter Cleere, Fidelis Doherty, Maria Dollard, Michael Delaney, Pat Dunphy, Pat Fitzgerald, Andrew McGuinness, Eugene McGuinness & Michael McCarthy

MS Teams

Cllrs. Eamon Aylward, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Deirdre Cullen, Ger Frisby, Denis Hynes, Joe Lyons & Patrick O'Neill.

Apologies: Cllrs. Joe Malone and Matt Doran.

Officials: Sean McKeown, Tim Butler, Mary Mulholland, Martin Prendiville, Denis Malone, Fiona Deegan, Anne Marie Shortall and Catherine Cooney.

1. **Dearbhú Miontuairiscí - Confirmation of Minutes**

(i) **Minutes of June Plenary Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and agreed:

"That the Minutes of Plenary Meeting held on Monday, 19th June, 2023 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

(ii) **Minutes of SPC2: Transportation Policy/Mobility Management & Water Services**

Proposed by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett and agreed:

"That the Minutes of SPC 2: Transportation Policy/Mobility Management & Water Services held on Thursday, 11th May, 2023 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved".

(iii) **Minutes of SPC 1: Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Tourism, Planning and Development Policy.**

"That the Minutes of SPC 2: Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Tourism, Planning and Development Policy held on Thursday, 23rd March, 2023 as circulated with the Agenda be and are hereby approved."

Fógraí - Announcements

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Doyle congratulated the following:

- Margaret Turley and Gemma Haire on who did Kilkenny proud in the Special Olympics in Berlin
- Kilkenny Senior Hurling Team on reaching the All Ireland Hurling Final.
- Kilkenny Junior Football Team on reaching the All Ireland Final.
- Kilkenny Arts Festival on their 50th Anniversary this year and wished them every success.

The Cathaoirleach also informed members that at a civic reception for Margaret Turley and Gemma Haire will be held following the September monthly meeting as approved recently by the Corporate Policy Group.

Vótaí Comhbhrón - Votes of Sympathy

Cathaoirleach Cllr. Michael Doyle extended vote of sympathy to the following:

- Family of the late Mary Quigley, Newtown, Kells, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Alice Duggan, Flemingstown, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Billy Rockett, Milltown, Kilmacow, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Patsy Kirwan, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Marita Cummins, Cappagh, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Alice Walsh, Scartnamore, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Tim Roche, Tullogher, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Peter Holden, Ballycormey, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Teresa Conway, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny.
- Family of the late Dan Lynch, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny.

2. (a) Tithíocht & Díuscairt Eile - Housing & Other Disposal

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty seconded by Cllr. Pat Dunphy and agreed:

"That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Ballylusky, Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny to Owen Conway, Ballylusky, Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny, for the nominal sum of €10.00."

- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan seconded by Cllr. Michael McCarthy and agreed:

"That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Poulgour, Wetlands, Kilkenny to Cairn Homes Properties Limited, 7, Grand Canal Street Lower, Dublin 2, for the nominal sum of €10.00."

- (iii) It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness seconded by Cllr. Maria Dollard and agreed:

"That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in land at Greenshill, Kilkenny, to Kevin Moore Building Contractor Ltd. for the sum of €1,000."

- (iv) It was proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and agreed:

"That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the disposal of its interest in a plot of land at Bateman Quay, Kilkenny, to Kilkenny Abbey Quarter Development Partnership (Acting by its general partner - Kilkenny Abbey Quarter Development Limited) for the sum of €120,000."

(b) Pleanail - Planning

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr. Pat Dunphy seconded by Cllr. Fidelis Doherty and agreed:

"That Kilkenny County Council enters an agreement under Section 85 of the Local Government Act, 2001 with Tipperary County Council in order to undertake a Feasibility Study on a route selection to link Waterford Greenway to the River Suir Blueway."

(ii) **Ag Glacadh i gCúram - Taking in Charge, New Road at Connolly's Redmills Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny**

It was proposed by Cllr. Michael McCarthy, seconded by Cllr. Michael Doyle and agreed that:

"We, the Members of Kilkenny County Council approve the proposal to the taking in charge of the following development in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and in compliance with Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000-2015 as amended by Section 59 of the Planning & Development Act 2010."

Development: TC179 – Declaration of a Public Road-Link Road Connolly's Redmills.

(iii) to (x) **Ag Glacadh i gCúram - Taking in Charge**

Mr. Denis Malone, A/Director of Services, informed the meeting that the initiation of proceedings for the taking in charge of the following developments in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 and in compliance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended by Section 59 of the Planning and Development Act 2010 will commence:

Development: Greenoaks/Fairways, Ferrybank.
College Park, Kilkenny.
The Belfry, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
Patrick's Gate, Kilkenny.
Breagagh Court, Kilkenny.
Rathullord (Phase 2), Kilkenny.
Rathullord (Phase 3), Kilkenny.
Farmlea Estate, Ferrybank, Kilkenny.

(c) **Tithíocht - Housing**

(i) **Draft Right to Reside Policy.**

Mary Mulholland referred to the Draft Right to Reside Policy document as circulated and advised that the document has been drafted and agreed by the Housing SPC and is now before the Elected Members for adoption. This policy will address the need for a closer oversight of tenancies in order to deal with the increasing number of Anti-Social Behaviour incidences in Council properties. The local authority has worked hard in the last two years to increase its activity in dealing with anti-social behaviour and as part of the increased activity in tenancy management, it has become clear that tenancies where the occupants are not known are more difficult to manage. Mary Mulholland went through the various scenarios that arise in relation to occupancy in Council houses and this has become difficult to manage by our Housing Section. The implementation of this policy will result in better tenancy management and provide clarity to tenants.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. Eamon Alyward, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Fidelis Doherty and Eugene McGuinness.

Issues raised as follows:

Procedure if incorrect information is provided.

Procedure in the case of incomplete applications.

It was proposed by Cllr. Eamon Alyward, seconded by Cllr. Eugene McGuinness and agreed that:

"the "Right to Reside Policy" is hereby approved by the Members of Kilkenny County Council."

(ii) **Draft Succession Policy**

Mary Mulholland referred to the Draft Succession Policy document as circulated and advised that the document has been drafted and agreed by the Housing SPC and is now before the Elected Members for adoption. The adoption of a policy on succession of tenancy will make it clear for people when a succession of tenancy is eligible for and when it is not, to avoid undue stress for people and to allow the housing office to better manage its public housing stock, which must be retained to meet the requirements of households in the greatest need of assistance.

It was proposed by Cllr. Eamon Aylward, seconded by Cllr. Michael Doyle and agreed that:

“the “Succession Policy” is hereby approved by the Members of Kilkenny County Council”.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Doyle, thanked the Housing Department and Housing SPC for their work in preparing both these policy documents and bringing them to the Members for approval.

(d) **Pobal Cultúr - Community & Culture**

(i) **Community and Cultural Facilities Capital (CCFCS) Grant Scheme 2023**

It was proposed by Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness and agreed that:

“That the Community and Cultural Facilities Capital (CCFCS) Grant Scheme 2023 is hereby approved by the Members of Kilkenny County Council.”

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Doyle, thanked Mary Mulholland and the staff of the Community Section for their work in assessing and processing the applications. This scheme helps a lot of communities across the County.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Andrew McGuinness and Tomás Breathnach in relation to the following:

- Commend all volunteers that work so hard in their communities.
- Congratulate the successful applications and commiserate with groups that have not been successful.
- The Council should continue to work with the groups that have not been successful to access other funding streams.

(e) **Cosaint Shibhialta - Civil Defence**

(i) **Civil Defence Activity.**

Mary Mulholland introduced Michelle Colclough, Civil Defence Officer, to the meeting and acknowledged the work of Michelle and her team.

Michelle Colclough gave a presentation to the meeting on the activities of the Civil Defence Team from January this year to date.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Doyle, thanked Michelle for her presentation and her team for the work they do and particularly mentioned the work the Civil Defence Team did during COVID, flooding in Inistioge and at community events across the County.

(f) **Comhshaol – Environment**

(i) **Climate Action Update**

Dearbhala Ledwidge, Climate Action Officer, thanked the Elected Members for the opportunity to give an update on Climate Action Plan. She advised that there are now 3 no. team members in place with a 4th member due to commence shortly.

Dearbhala then gave presentation outlining the following:

- What does evidence gathered so far tell us.
- Preserved and Predicted Climate Impacts in Ireland.
- Kilkenny County Emissions.
- What can the Council do to bring down emissions.
- Scope of LACAP (Local Authority Climate Action Plan).
- Timeline for adoption of Climate Action Plan.
- Kilkenny City Decarbonisation Zone.

Contributions were received from Cllrs. Michael Doyle, Joe Lyons, Deirdre Cullen, Eugene McGuinness, Andrew McGuinness, Tomás Breathnach, Maria Dollard, Fidelis Doherty, and Pat Dunphy in relation to the following:

- Similar targets for urban and rural areas.
- District Heating role out to towns and villages if successful.
- Retrofitting of Council Housing Stock.
- Flooding in John Street.
- Communication of information on Grants available.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Points and maintenance of same.
- Green Public Procurement.
- Water Quality.

Dearbhala Ledwidge, Tim Butler, Denis Malone and Mary Mulholland responded to queries raised by Members in relation to the above. Mr. Sean McKeown, Interim Chief Executive, informed the meeting of the following initiatives that Kilkenny County Council have underway:

- Council has been successful again in securing its ISO 50001 accreditation,
- Kilkenny County Council are Co-Lead with Kildare County Council for Regional Climate Action Office (CARO),
- Lead Authority for PLEEP (Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Programme) which involves replacement of 75,000 public lights across the region with LED lights.
- New Senior Engineer employed to lead on European Investment Programme for LAWPRO.
- €50 million EU Investment Programme to implement improved water quality.

(g) **Gnóthaí Corparáideacha – Corporate Affairs**

(i) **Chief Executive's Monthly Report.**

Mr. Sean McKeown presented his Monthly Chief Executive's Report.

Cllr. Michael Doyle advised that the Chief Executive Report is being taken as read and noted. Any queries can be addressed to the Chief Executive.

(ii) **Approve Foreign Travel – Kilkenny Minnesota.**

Tim Butler informed the meeting that an invitation has been extended from the Mayor of Kilkenny, Minnesota to the Mayor of Kilkenny City to visit Kilkenny Minnesota. The Corporate Policy Group have approved this foreign travel.

It was proposed by Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh and agreed:

“that Kilkenny County Council hereby approves the attendance of Cllr. Joe Malone to travel to Kilkenny Minnesota for a twinning event to be held from 7th to 10th September, 2023.”

3. Comhfhreagras - Correspondence

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Doyle, informed the meeting that an acknowledgement has been received from Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan, T.D.’s office regarding correspondence in relation to the Local Improvement Scheme and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

4. Gnó ar athló ó chruinniúroimhe seo - Business adjourned from a previous Meeting

None.

5. Dátaí agus Amanta do chruinnithe a shocrú - Fix Dates & Times of Meetings

Deferred to September Meeting.

**6. Plé ar Thuairiscí agus Moltaí ó Choistí an Comhairle
Consideration of Reports & Recommendations of Committees of the Council**

Deferred to September Meeting

**7. Gnó Eile romhainn i bhFógra reachtála an Chruinnithe
Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the Meeting**

None.

8. Oideachas agus Oiliúint - Education & Training

None.

9. Gnótha ag éirí as Miontuairiscí - Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

10. Aon Ghnó Eile - Any Other Business

None.

11. Fógraí Rúin - Notices of Motion

None.

12. Fógraí i dtaobh Rúin ó Údaráis Áitiúla eile ag lorg tacaíochta ó Chomhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh - Notices of Motion from other local authorities seeking support of Kilkenny County Council

Deferred to September Meeting.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE