

Chairman's Report of SPC 5 Meeting – Community, Culture & Fire Services held in Meeting Room 1, County Hall on Wednesday 21st June, 2023 at 3.00p.m.

1. Minutes of last meeting on Wednesday 12th April, 2023

Minutes were proposed by Cllr John Coonan, seconded by Cllr John Brennan and agreed.

2. Disability Strategy

Ronan presented the draft Kilkenny County Council Disability Inclusion Strategy 2023-2026. A copy of the draft was circulated to those in attendance.

The Kilkenny County Council Disability Inclusion Strategy 2023-2026 was proposed by Cllr Martin Brett and seconded by Cllr John Coonan.

3. Introduction to the Biodiversity Officer Role and Work Programme

Bernadette Moloney, Biodiversity Officer gave a presentation on the role of the Biodiversity Officer and noted the importance of Biodiversity.

Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) is currently in draft. The Plan will set the national biodiversity agenda for the period 2023-2027.

4. Community

Anne Marie Shortall provided an update in relation to the Community Section in particular to the Kilkenny Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2028 which was finalised in June, Thomastown Library, The Mayfair Library and contracts for the new Fire Station site have been signed. The site for the new station is at the Kilkenny Business and Retail Park, Waterford Road, Kilkenny.

5. AOB

Cllr Pat Dunphy stepped down as Chair of the SPC and welcomed Cllr Martin Brett into the Chair. Pat also extended his well wishes to all in attendance. Cllr John Brennan, Cllr John Coonan, Cllr Peter Cleere thanked Cllr Pat Dunphy and welcomed Cllr Martin Brett to the Chair.

The next SPC meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th September, 2023 at 3.00p.m. in Meeting Room 1, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.

This concluded the business of the meeting.