

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CASTLECOMER HELD ON MONDAY,
15TH APRIL 2024 AT 11.30AM**

In the chair: Cllr Michael Delaney
Present: Cllrs John Brennan, Pat Fitzpatrick, Michael McCarthy, Mary Hilda Cavanagh,
and Denis Hynes
In attendance: Mr Philippe Beubry, Mr Michael Leahy, Ms Nancy Byrne and Ms Rita
McGarvey

1. Confirmation of Minutes of:

(a) March meeting held on 25th March

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr Michael McCarthy and agreed.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

(a) Broadband Update – Castlecomer MD

Ms Rita McGarvey provided an update to the members as follows:

- The Castlecomer exchange is due to be active by Q3, 2024
- Rollout status per Kilkenny Deployment Area was provided
- Reminder of information available on NBI website, members were also advised they can direct any queries via the Council's Broadband Officer at broadbandofficer@kilkennycoco.ie
- No further progress to report for Castlecomer Village or Urlingford.
- Confirmation that NBI are keen to provide a presentation to members.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- Members acknowledged the progress achieved to date and the work completed by the Broadband Officer.
- Concern was expressed with the lack of progress by Cellnex to identify a potential site in Urlingford for the provision of a mast.

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District for transaction at such meeting

None

4. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the Meeting

(a) Items submitted by members: -

(i) Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick

- **Improvements to road markings and safety signage outside the Credit Union in Ballyragget at the turn into the Church**

Mr Philippe Beubry confirmed as assessment of the location had been completed which confirmed signage and markings in place are in compliance with the Roads Manual. Mr Beubry also confirmed he will liaise with TII with a view to including this junction under the 2025 Low Cost Safety Scheme. Members queried the possibility of relocating the pedestrian crossing currently located in front of the Credit Union. Mr Philippe Beubry pointed out that with the location of both the petrol station and supermarket there is little scope to find a more suitable location.

- **Pedestrian safety at the Red Barn while construction works are taking place**

Mr Philippe Beubry confirmed this scaffolding was erected prior to a licence been granted; a licence has subsequently issued which includes a condition for an amendment to scaffolding erected to accommodate pedestrians, buggies and wheelchair users.

- **Improvement to road markings at the Creche at Glenvale, Ballyragget**

Mr Philippe Beubry confirmed an assessment of existing road markings will be completed.

- **Provision of a bus stop in Moneenroe**

Mr Philippe Beubry acknowledged confirmation of the availability of funding from Kilkenny Leader Partnership. Cllrs Brennan and Fitzpatrick are to liaise with local residents in relation to the location identified by KLP and TFI Local Link for the bus shelter.

(ii) **Cllr Denis Hynes**

- **Safety measures needed at the entrance to Parkmore, Goran**

Cllr Denis Hynes highlighted a safety issue at Parkmore, Gowran as a result of vehicles parking at the entrance to the estate. Mr Philippe Beubry confirmed sightlines were improved when resurfaced, however, he will re-examine the location.

5. **Notices of Motion**

(a) 5(24) Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh

“That this Municipal District would request the Minister for Finance and the HSE to substantially increase the funding to help families who care for family members who are young or not so young and who have medical needs, whether mental or physical. A very unfair burden is placed on families at the moment with little recognition for the care they provide or for their own personal wellbeing”

Cllrs Mary Hilda Cavanagh, John Brennan, Michael Delany, Pat Fitzpatrick, Denis Hynes and Michael McCarthy spoke on this Notice of Motion and members agreed the Notice of Motion would be sent forward to the next Plenary meeting.

6. **Correspondence**

(a) Mr Michael Leahy confirmed a letter had issued:

- To the Department of Transport seeking additional funding for the Community Involvement Scheme
- To Uisce Eireann seeking the provision of booster pumps in Johnstown at the following locations: - Lios Na Slí, Donaghmore and Chapel Street.

7. **Matters arising from Minutes**

None

8. **Any other business**

(a) **Notice of Motion**

6(24) Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick

“That Kilkenny County Council appoint a fulltime Road Safety Officer

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr Michael McCarthy and agreed.

Cllrs Mary Hilda Cavanagh, John Brennan, Michael Delany, Pat Fitzpatrick, Denis Hynes and Michael McCarthy spoke on this Notice of Motion and members agreed the Notice of Motion would be sent forward to the next Plenary meeting.

(b) May MD Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick and agreed by all that statutory items only would be dealt with at the May MD meeting and the meeting would commence at 12 noon.

(c) Urlingford Remote Working Hub

Mr Michael Leahy confirmed the Urlingford Remote Working Hub is due to be officially opened by Minister Heather Humphries on the 24th of April next and a formal invitation will issue to members in the coming days.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson:

Date:

Michael Delany
20th May 2024

