

MINUTES OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 21ST JULY 2025 AT 12 NOON IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, JOHN STREET, KILKENNY

In the Chair: Cllr Michael McCarthy
Present: Cllrs John Brennan (remotely), Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Pat Fitzpatrick, Michael Delaney and Maurice Shortall
In attendance: Mr Paraic Butler, Mr Martin Prendiville, Mr Tim Butler, Mr Denis Malone, Ms Josephine Coyne, Ms Catriona O Sullivan and Ms Clodagh Brennan

1. Confirmation of Minutes of:

(a) Ordinary meeting held 16th June 2025

Proposed by Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh, seconded by Cllr Michael Delaney and agreed.

(b) Annual meeting held 27th June 2025

Proposed by Cllr Michael McCarthy, seconded by Cllr Pat Fitzpatrick and agreed.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

(a) Kilkenny County Council Library Services Development Plan 2025 -2029.

Ms Josephine Coyne provided a presentation on the Library Services 5 Year Development Plan.

Cllr McCarthy thanked Ms Josephine Coyne for her impressive presentation.

Cllr Cavanagh thanked Ms Josephine Coyne for the Library's continued hard work and valuable services it's providing.

Cllr Fitzpatrick thanked Ms Josephine Coyne for the growing library service and its plan to roll out further open library's after succession in doing so in Castlecomer Library.

(b) Variation 5 Kilkenny City & County Development Plan – Settlement Plan Castlecomer

Ms Catriona O Sullivan provided a presentation on the oversee of Settlement Plan for Castlecomer. It was highlighted that it would be discussed in further detail at the Plenary Council meeting later that afternoon. Ms Catriona O'Sullivan advised that the proposed variations were open to submissions from 30th May to 27th June 2025, in which 15 public submissions were received, 9 from statutory agencies and 6 from local groups. 2 of the submissions were discussed in brief; (i) The rezoning of Castlecomer Business Park from industrial to general business to allow for convenience retails and (ii) seeking the rezoning from agriculture to residential in the Oakhill Residential Zone. Submissions were presented for ang against these items.

Cllr McCarthy thanked Ms Catriona O Sullivan for her presentation.

Cllr Fitzpatrick thanked Ms Catriona O Sullivan and for coming out to the Castlecomer area. Cllr Fitzpatrick wished to propose an amendment to no dezone of areas in Castlecomer highlighting the high demand for housing the in area. Cllr Fitzpatrick mentioned that TII will need to inspect the entrance to the Castlecomer Business Park as it poses to be a hazard area for traffic.

Cllr Cavanagh seconded Cllr Fitzpatrick's statement on the need to not dezone any land in Castlecomer.

Cllr Shortall too agreed with Cllr Fitzpatrick's comments on the dezoning of areas in Castlecomer.

Cllr Delaney too agreed with Cllr Fitzpatrick's comments.

Cllr Brennan agreed with his fellow Cllr's about not dezoning any areas in Castlecomer and concerns to keep Castlecomer a thriving town and its need for more housing.

Cllr McCarthy stated he was in full support of his fellow Cllrs.

Denis Malone highlighted that further discussion and any concerns would be relayed at the Plenary Council meeting later that afternoon where Cllr's could bring forward their opinions.

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

There were no items for discussion

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

There were no items for discussion

5. **Notices of Motion**

There were no items for discussion

6. **Correspondence**

There were no items for discussion

7. **Matters arising from minutes**

(a) **Ramps at Togher Crescent Urlingford**

Cllr Cavanagh enquired for an update on issues raised about the need for ramps to be installed at Togher Crescent, Urlingford. Mr Paraic Butler advised a technical assessment was completed and provided a positive result. Ramps will be considered for future budgeting.

8. **Any other business**

(a) **Anti Social Behaviour**

Cllr Fitzpatrick called for an update from Tenancy Liaison Officers in the Housing Department regarding antisocial behaviours in municipal district of Castlecomer. Query if a presentation could be offered at the next municipal district meeting.

(b) **Active Travel**

Cllr Fitzpatrick called for a presentation from Active Travel and what opportunities may be available for the municipal district.

(c) **Fire Hydrants in Moneenroe**

Cllr Shortall spoke about issue with the public using fire hydrants in Moneenroe for personal use and if there were any measures to stop this. Mr Paraic Butler advised that these issues need to be reported immediately to the Gardai and Uisce Eireann.

(d) **Sympathies**

Cllr McCarthy passed on his sympathies to the death of retired Michael Pyke's wife Bridget who sadly passed away over the weekend.

Cllr Fitzpatrick also noted his condolences to the Pyke family.

Cllr McCarthy gave best wishes for the break in August.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: Michael R. Gentry

Date: 15/9/25.

