**CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH**

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 17TH JULY, 2015 AT 4.00 P.M.**

**Mayor, Councillor Joe Malone, Presiding.**

**Present:-**

**Councillors:** Matt Doran, Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere, David Kennedy, Andrew McGuinness, Malcolm Noonan, Patrick O’Neill, Breda Gardner and Patrick McKee.

**Also Present:** Mr. Brian Tyrrell, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald, Senior Engineer and Ms. Catherine Cooney, Staff Officer.

**Apologies:** Cllr. David Fitzgerald, Cllr. Kathleen Funchion, Cllr. Michael Doyle and Mr. Simon Walton, A/Director of Services.

**Mayor’s Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 10th July, 2015 convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

1. **Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings:**
2. Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th June, 2015 having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere

Seconded by: Cllr. David Kennedy

And Resolved

“That the minutes as presented to this meeting be and are hereby adopted.”

1. Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 22nd June, 2015, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere

Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness

And Resolved

“That the minutes as presented to this meeting be and are hereby adopted.”

**2. Matters brought forward by direction of the Mayor.**

(i) The Mayor informed the meeting that he hosted a very successful meeting in Council Chamber, City Hall, on Saturday, 4th July, 2015, with Councillors from many other local authorities who were visiting Kilkenny for a LAMA Conference.

(ii) The Mayor attended funerals recently of Irish Students who tragically died after a balcony collapsed in Berkeley, California and presented a book of condolences which was opened in Kilkenny.

(iii) The Mayor stated that he attended an event in the Broguemaker recently in relation to suicide prevention.

(iv) The Mayor proposed that Municipal District some monthly meetings be held in Callan, Thomastown and Newpark Resource Centre in the future. He also suggested the holding of a meeting “as Gaeilge” as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge. He further stated that a 1.00 p.m. prior to the September Monthly Meeting, Councillors would meet with staff of City Hall.

Votes of Sympathy

Members joined with the Mayor in offering a Vote of Sympathy to the families of the following:

Patrick Lahart, Killenaule, Co. Tipperary, father of Anne Maria Walsh, Kilkenny County Council.

Gerard (Ger) Malone, 8, Old Golf Links Road, Kilkenny.

Margaret (Mags) Heffernan, Newpark Close, Kilkenny.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and respectfully passed in silence, all present standing.

**3. Local Economic and Community Plan.**

Mr. Seán McKeown, A/Director of Services, gave a presentation to the meeting on the feedback received following the completion of the recent public consultation phase of the Local Economic and Community Plan and the next steps to be taken prior to the adoption of a Plan. Mr. Stephen O’Connor and Ms. Lindsey Butler, Kilkenny County Council, presented information in relation to the feedback on the economic and local community elements of the Plan.

Following the presentation, Members complimented the Report and raised queries in relation to the following:

Cllr. Matt Doran:

* Broadband in the rural part of Kilkenny.
* Timeframes in relation to the Plan and is there a plan of action.

Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere:

* Challenges for the implementation of the Plan.
* Broadband – Kilkenny as a County should be easy to do business with.

Cllr. Patrick McKee:

* More emphasis placed on SMEs in the completed document.
* Improved access and communication infrastructure.
* Lack of reliable public transport.
* Look at other ways of encouraging the public to engage.

Cllr. Malcolm Noonan:

* Concerns regarding poor public engagement.
* Broadband.
* Specific focus groups/young people forums.

Cllr. Andrew McGuinness:

* Concerns about the number of people that participated in public consultation process.
* Come up with new imaginative ways to consult with public.
* Social media/website.
* Focus on traditional skills, e.g. brewing..
* Vacant premises shop fronts/inappropriate signs.

Cllr. David Kennedy and Cllr. Breda Gardner:

* Priority of Broadband.
* Lack of public involvement in public consultation process.
* 3rd Level University.

Cllr. Joe Malone:

* Drug Misuse in the City.
* Public transportation for City and County.
* Mental Health Issues.

In response to the issues raised by Members, Mr. McKeown advised that today is the first consultation with Municipal District Members, he would take all issues raised on board and a further draft plan will be brought back to the Members for approval at a later date.

Proposed by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere

Seconded by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan

“that the Municipal District of Kilkenny City hereby adopt submission report following the public consultation phase of the preparation of the Local Economic and Community Plan process”.

**4. Update on Roadworks Schemes.**

Mr. Kieran Fitzgerald circulated a report to the Members regarding the current status of the roadworks schemes for Kilkenny City East and West. Mr. Fitzgerald responded to a number of queries raised by Members in relation the schemes.

**5. Location of Hurling Monument.**

Mr. Brian Tyrrell advised the Members that the Hurling Monument is nearing completion and at this stage can be properly assessed. Therefore, in order for Members to consider a location for the Monument, a site visit to the Sculptor’s workshop could be arranged.

The Mayor agreed with Members that arrangements would be made for Members to travel to Ennis, Co. Clare, on Wednesday, 22nd July, 2015, to view the monument in the Sculptor’s workshop.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

**Signed:**

**MAYOR**

**Date:**