

**CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup>  
JANUARY, 2016 AT 4.00 P.M.**

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

**Present:-**

**Councillors:** Matt Doran, Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere, Michael Doyle, Kathleen Funchion, David Kennedy, Andrew McGuinness, Malcolm Noonan, Patrick O’Neill, Breda Gardner.

Apologies: David Fitzgerald, Patrick McKee.

**Also Present:** Mr. Simon Walton, A/Director of Services, Mr. Seamus Kavanagh, A/Senior Engineer, Mr. Seamus Foley, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Brian Tyrrell, Senior Executive Officer, Ms. Catherine Cooney, Staff Officer, Mr. Martin Mullally, Senior Executive Officer.

---

**Mayor’s Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2016, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings:**

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Matt Doran  
Seconded by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere  
And Resolved

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

**Matters Arising**

Members expressed their gratitude to council staff for their help in assisting members of the public during the recent flooding.

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

- (i) The Mayor congratulated all those involved in the success of the following recent events:
  - Suicide Awareness Night held on 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.
  - Civic remembrance ceremony on New Year's Day 2016, to mark the commencement of our Year of Commemorations : Ireland 2016, in County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.
- (ii) The Mayor thanked all who contributed to the Mayor's Christmas Fund for their generosity.
- (iii) The Mayor mentioned a number of events which he attended since the last meeting of the Municipal District and congratulated all involved and informed Members of a number of upcoming events for their diaries.

### Votes of Sympathy

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

Tom Cantwell, "Lisheen", Springmount, Waterford Road, Kilkenny.  
Michael Doyle, Garryduff, Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny.  
Maureen Hegarty, 2, St. James Park, Kilkenny.  
Eddie Walsh, 113, Newpark Close, Kilkenny.  
Chris Phelan, Ashurst, College Road, Kilkenny.  
Paul Harrison, Clonard, Ballycallan, Co. Kilkenny.  
Seamus Buckley, 22, Talbots Inch, Freshford Road, Kilkenny.  
Thomas Walsh, 3, Lord Edward Street, Kilkenny.  
Michael Malone, 62, Aylesbury, Freshford Road, Kilkenny.  
Elizabeth Woodcock, "Ard Soluis", Bishopshill, Kilkenny.  
Thomas Doran, Late of Pearse Street and Fr. Sheerin Place, Kilkenny.

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

## **3. Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme.**

Mr. Martin Mullally, Senior Executive Officer, circulated a report to the Members and gave a presentation on the proposed new Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme which included the following:

- Parameters of the Scheme.
- Eligibility.
- Discounts applicable.
- Calculation of Tenant income.
- Purchase Price
- Type of houses for sale under the Scheme.

- Key differences between the old and new scheme.
- Disqualifications and Refusal.

Following the presentation the Members thanked Mr. Mullally and put forward queries and comments in relation to: Age Restrictions, Depletion of Housing Stock, Income limits and disregards, the ineligibility of Part 5 dwellings, Arrears, RÁS Tenants. Mr. Mullally responded to questions raised and noted comments made by Members and explained that their concerns will be submitted to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, for consideration.

During the discussion it was agreed that this Council would write to the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government, requesting that Part 5 dwellings be included as eligible for sale under the Scheme. It was also requested that a presentation on the new scheme be made to the Housing SPC.

#### **4. Twinning Agreement with Malbork, Poland.**

The Mayor referred to the information documentation on Malbork, Poland, circulated to the Members and the request to enter into a twinning agreement with Kilkenny. During a discussion, it was agreed to set up a Committee to work on researching and investigating the idea which involves consulting with the wider community. This committee can also investigate any future twinning requests. The following Members were nominated for the committee: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Malcolm Noonan and Cllr. Joe Malone. It was further agreed that the committee members would request a meeting with Mr. Brian Tyrrell with a view to beginning the process of selecting community representatives to be part of the committee.

Cllr. Malcolm Noonan asked that the request from Formigne, Italy, for a twinning agreement be listed on the Agenda for the February monthly meeting.

#### **5. Funding for St. Patrick's Day Parade 2016.**

The Mayor stated that the Theme for the St. Patrick's Day Parade for 2016 is the 1916 Commemorations and the matter of funding for the Parade requires discussion. It was pointed out that the Parade is now considered to be a civic event and separate to the TradFest Festival and the Local Authority should take on full financing of the event. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan  
 Seconded by: Cllr. Peter 'Chap' Cleere  
 And Resolved

“that €10,000 be allocated to the St. Patrick's Day Parade Civic Event 2016 from the Municipal District Discretionary Fund.”

Members agreed that the Parade Organiser, Marian Flannery, be requested to make a presentation to the Members at the February Monthly Meeting.

**6. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Andrew McGuinness received 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
Seconded by: Cllr. Breda Gardner  
And Resolved

“that monies left aside by the former Borough Council for the provision of a skatepark in Kilkenny City be ring fenced for the provision of such a facility on the Brewery Site, that a committee, including skateboarders, be set up immediately in order to agree a design for the facility and that a time frame be put on the project to keep people informed of its progress.”

Mr. Simon Walton advised that a site has been identified in the Linear Park for this facility which is currently at public consultation stage. If Members adopt the Part 8 proposals when it is put before them, at that stage it would be possible to consult with the skateboarders with a view to agreeing a design for the facility. Mr Walton agreed to come back to the Members with the precise figures ring fenced by the former Borough Council.

It was also suggested that it would be worthwhile at this point to set up a committee for the governance of the skateboard park.

**7. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Malcolm Noonan received 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2016.**

Proposed by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan  
Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
And Resolved

“that Kilkenny Municipal District Council would develop a plan for the conservation, restoration and maintenance of historic plaques, Mayoral plaques, cast iron street name signs, memorial stones and other wall mounted and freestanding commemoration features within the functional area. Within such a plan consideration should be given to the replacement over time of modern street name signs within the Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA's) of Kilkenny City with replica cast iron street signs in Irish and English languages.”

**8. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. David Kennedy received 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. David Kennedy  
Seconded by: Cllr. Breda Gardner  
And Resolved

“That Kilkenny County Council erects a driver feedback sign or other necessary road safety signage on the slip road off the M9 motorway entering Knocktopher Village (R699) to prevent any serious road accidents occurring as many incidences of concern have been witnessed on this stretch of roadway in recent times.”

**9. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere received 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015:**

Proposed by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere  
Seconded by: Cllr. Breda Gardner  
And Resolved

“That Kilkenny Municipal District Council would make financial provisions for the “Paint the Town Schemes” that was introduced on a pilot basis in Graiguenamanagh and Callan this year to be extended and broadened to include all towns and villages in the Municipal District of Kilkenny East and West – including Thomastown, Inistioge, Bennettsbridge and Ballyhale for the entirety of 2016.”

**10. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Pat O’Neill received 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015:**

Proposed by: Cllr. Pat O’Neill  
Seconded by: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness  
And Resolved

“That this Municipal Council calls on Kilkenny Local Authority to reopen discussion regarding the lighting situation on the Kilkenny side of Bennettsbridge and on the bridge itself. This has been talked about for a number of years and action is now required as monies had originally been ring fenced from the old Callan and Thomastown Electoral Areas for this project.”

Mr. Simon Walsh confirmed that a sum of €20,000 has been set aside for works on the bridge in Bennettsbridge. However, as the bridge is located in a Special Preservation Area there are restrictions on the work that can be carried out to the bridge. Mr. Walton advised that the only reasonable solution would be to provide a lighting system attached to the parapet of the bridge which would light the roadway only. In response to query from Cllr. Michael Doyle regarding the bridge in Inistioge, Mr. Walton stated that the same issues apply in this case.

**11. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere received 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. Peter ‘Chap’ Cleere  
Seconded by: Cllr. Michael Doyle  
And Resolved

“That Kilkenny Municipal District Council would prepare a report outlining details of the costs involved to erect new public lighting throughout the area. There should be full consultation with all councillors who should forward on details of areas where public lighting is inadequate – this should be surveyed and prioritised. Following this, sufficient financial provisions should be set aside in municipal budget next year and an ongoing plan be put in place to ensure a new schedule of works can be both put in place and achieved.”

**12. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Malcolm Noonan received 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2015.**

Proposed by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan  
Seconded by: Cllr. David Kennedy  
And Resolved

“That Kilkenny Municipal District Council supports the establishment of an Architectural Conservation Committee as prescribed under the National Monuments Act. Such a committee will inform the Municipal Advisory Committee on best practice and policy related to the Architectural Conservation Areas (ACA’s) of Kilkenny City and advance the enhancement of the Medieval Mile experience by exploring opportunities for representing and identifying the remaining Renaissance Town Houses and medieval houses on its route, conserving and enhancing vernacular building features and stock and other initiatives that will promote the awareness of Kilkenny’s significance as a medieval town.”

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

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_