

CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY

MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA gCRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH A THIONÓLADH AR AN 13th NOLLAIG 2019. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON, 13TH DECEMBER 2019.

Mayor, Councillor, Martin Brett, Presiding.

Present/ I Láthair:-

Councillors/Comhairleoirí: Cllr. David Fitzgerald, Cllr. Eugene McGuinness, Cllr. Malcolm Noonan, , Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. John Coonan.

Apologies: Cllr Andrew McGuinness

Also Present: Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer, Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer.

Mayor's Summons of Meeting:

Notice dated 6th December, 2019, convening a Monthly Meeting for this date was read.

1. A dhaingniú Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe.
Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting:

Minutes of monthly meeting held on 8th November 2019, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. John Coonan
Seconded by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan
And Resolved

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

Minutes of special meeting held on 18th November 2019, having been previously circulated was tabled for confirmation. It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan
Seconded by: Cllr. Joe Malone
And Resolved

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

2. Cúrsaí thabhairt ar aghaidh ordú ón Méara Matters brought forward by direction of the Mayor.

The Mayor acknowledged the following Projects/Events which he attended and will attend:

- Lions Club fund raising events.
- Rehab Care event in William Street
- Congratulations to Kilkenny City in the recent BOI awards.
- Success of Pride of Place
- Launch of Music Generation Kilkenny
- Home Rule Club, 125-year anniversary
- Carol service for Cois Nore
- St Canices Cathedral carol service on 22nd December @5pm (Robes required)

Ms. Anne Maria Walsh asked for Members comments in relation to specifying protected areas such as laneways in the draft busking bye-laws from amplification and drums.

It was proposed by Cllr. John Coonan and agreed by all that specific areas/laneways should be listed as protected in the draft bye-laws.

Cllr. Joe Malone asked that seasonal good wishes be passed onto all our Soldiers who will not be home for Christmas. Cllr. Brett confirmed that he had sent a letter to the Armed Forces.

3. Nuashonrú ar thionscadail bóithre. Update on Road Projects

Mr Ian Gardner, City Engineer, provided a report for Members detailing road work updates for December. The report included information on the restoration improvement works, footpath works and miscellaneous works happening in or scheduled to commence in December. He also updated Members on the Kilkenny City Bus Service and the Town Walls. Members thanked Mr. Gardner for the detailed report and raised the following queries/comments in relation to roads:

- Timetable for City Bus Service and any special service for Christmas.
- Recognition for all parties involved in bringing the new Bus Service to Kilkenny.
- Colour of buses for the new service and the possibility of promoting Kilkenny on side.
- Public lighting scheme on Ballyfoyle Road.
- Footpaths from Drakelands Middle to Ballycallan Road and connection to City.
- Removal of grey and maroon signage around the City and replace with cast iron signs.
- Possibility of a one-way system in Abbey Street.
- City Wall tour.

Mr. Ian Gardner and Mr. Butler responded to all the Members queries. Mr. Gardner clarified the bus timetable and colours. He confirmed that the City Wall tour will take place before the January MD meeting, weather permitting. Mr. Butler explained the prioritisation of road work schemes.

A Student will commence mapping of all signage in the City in January as part of the planned upgrading and uniformity of signage in the City.

Vicar Street Presentation

Mr. Gardner gave a presentation on Vicar Street. He detailed the existing issues over the management of traffic improvements for pedestrians and cyclists on the Street and then provided members with a number of options to try and address these issues. Members discussed the options and after receiving clarification from Mr. Butler it was:

Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald
Seconded by: Cllr. Martin Brett
And agreed by all

“That Option 2 would be advanced for Past 8 planning and will be published early in the New Year”

4. Athruithe ar Bhaile Mhic Andáin Limistéar Challainn Changes to Thomastown\Callan area

Mr. Gardner referred to the amendments to the Local Electoral Areas in 2019. The Engineering Areas were not re-aligned. In January 2020 the Engineering Areas will be changed and a report will be provided at the January MD meeting detailing these changes.

6. Comhfhreagras maidir le hEalaíona / Ceardaíocht ar Shiúlóid na Méaraí. Correspondence re Arts/Crafts on the Mayors Walk.

Ms. Anne Maria Walsh advised the Members that she had received correspondence from Artists requesting permission to display their Art for sale for 5 weekends during the year along the Mayors Walk. The weekends detailed are not all coinciding with special events in the City and therefore cannot be considered under the current bye-laws. The Mayors Walk is not included as a designated casual trading area under the bye-laws and the casual trading day is restricted to a Thursday only. Members agreed that a draft proposed change to the bye-laws be prepared for consideration.

7. Fógra Foriarratais in ainm an Comh. Malcolm Noonan 28th November 2019 Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Malcolm Noonan 28th November 2019

‘That Kilkenny Municipal District Council would (a)introduce an expanded 'Paint the Shops' scheme for 2020 that would financially incentivise and encourage the design of traditional hand painted or crafted, vernacular signage on shopfront masts and panel board signage”.

(b) with the support of the Heritage Council and our Conservation Officer, commission a best practice, design, conservation and presentation guide book for shops and buildings in the historic core of the City of Kilkenny. Such a guide book could also provide guidelines for the presentation and reinterpretation of the Renaissance (Tudor) Houses of the City also.

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan
Seconded by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald
And Agreed:

“That the paint the shop scheme should be expanded as per the motion and a best practice guide booklet produced. ”

Mr. Butler explained that there is a small amount of funding available for shop fronts on a county wide basis under the “Paint the Town Scheme”. A presentation will be made at the full Council meeting on Monday 16th December in relation to shop fronts in the City.

8. Fógra Foriarratais in ainm an Comh. Malcolm Noonan 28th November 2019
Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr Malcolm Noonan 28th November 2019

“ That Kilkenny Municipal District Council in association with the Parks Department of Kilkenny County Council would carry out a comprehensive tree survey of all mature trees in the city and environs, with view to scheduling a winter and spring pruning programme and identify areas in the city and environs to commence an ambitious tree planting programme which would include fruiting trees and orchards, to enhance biodiversity, help tackle climate change and to create urban amenity woodlands in appropriate areas with the inclusion and participation of local communities”.

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan
Seconded by: Cllr. John Coonan
And Agreed by all:

“That tree survey and tree planting programme as detailed in the motion be undertaken ”

It was noted that there is a significant amount of trees within the City and the cost could be a factor in such a request.

9. Fógra Foriarratais in ainm an Comh. David Fitzgerald 5th December 2019
Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr David Fitzgerald 5th December 2019

“That we, the members of Kilkenny City MDC, unanimously propose to bring forward a motion to Kilkenny County Council to seek the support of the entire Council to petition the Minister to amend the name of our Council by ministerial order to be known into the future as “Kilkenny City and County Council”

Cllr. Fitzgerald explained to the Members that after the Local Government Act of 2014 and the subsequent amalgamation of City and County Councils, Cities such as Waterford and Limerick are now known as Waterford City and County Council and Limerick City and County Council. He is proposing that Kilkenny do the same.

After some discussion and clarification, it was:

Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald
Seconded by: Cllr. John Coonan
And Agreed by all:

“ That this MD would seek the support of the entire Council to petition the Minister to amend the name of our Council by ministerial order to be known into the future as “Kilkenny City and County Council”

10. Any Other Business

Appointment of St. Patrick’s Day Festival Committee Chairperson

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. Martin Brett
 Seconded by: Cllr. John Coonan
 And Agreed:

“That Cllr. Joe Malone be appointed as chair of the Committee ”

Appointment of two other members to St. Patrick’s Day Festival Committee.

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald
 Seconded by: Cllr. Martin Brett
 And Agreed:

“That Cllr. Eugene McGuinness be appointed to the Committee”

It was: Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald
 Seconded by: Cllr. John Coonan
 And Agreed:

“That Cllr. Martin Brett be appointed to the Committee”

5. Cur i láthair Thionscadal Ardeaglais Naomh Canices. Presentation - St Canices Cathedral Project.

The Reverend David McDonnell, Dean of Ossory gave the Members a presentation on St Canices Cathedral. He provided details on the Cathedral’s remarkable history, its position as a tourist attraction, the various lectures and music programmes it directs and their ambition to improve the choral standards to make the Cathedral’s Choir one of the best in the World. He explained the challenges that the Cathedral was facing and asked if the Council could help:

- (a) by providing a Coach Park for buses to park at Dean St/ Irishtown part of the City, therefore facilitating easy access to the tourist sites in the area.
- (b) promoting concerts, community events in the Cathedral and supporting improvements to welfare facilities for these events.

The Dean was asked by Members to put his proposals in writing for consideration by the MD. Mr. Butler confirmed that the Council was reviewing the possibility of providing a Coach Park in the vicinity of the Abbey Quarter.

The Mayor closed the meeting by wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

MAYOR

Date:
